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Handbook on USSR Military Forces: Chapter I, National Defense System, 1 March 1946

War Department (USA)

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Technical Manual TM 30-430
Handbook on USSR Military Forces
Chapter I, National Defense System
1 March 1946

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Handbook on USSR Military Forces
Chapter I, National Defense System
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Comments

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Abstract

TM 30-340, Handbook on USSR Military Forces, was “published in installments to expedite dissemination to the field.” TM 30-430, Chapter I, 1 March 1946, “National Defense System,” contains a brief overview of the organization, structure, and geographical distribution of the Soviet armed forces with maps and organizational diagrams.

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A Note on Scholarly Usage

Since revised editions of Army manuals are customarily issued with the same manual number and title as the previous editions, the minimal scholarly citation must contain the date of issue. The minimum unambiguous citation for this chapter is TM 30-430, Chapter I, 1 March 1946.

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CHAPTER I, III, VII

TECHNICAL MANUAL
HANDBOOK ON U. S. S. R. MILITARY FORCES

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WAR DEPARTMENT
WASHINGTON 25, D. C., 1 March 1946

TM 30-430, Handbook on U. S. S. R. Military Forces, is published for the information and guidance of all concerned.

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CHAPTER I

NATIONAL DEFENSE SYSTEM

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CHAPTER I

NATIONAL DEFENSE SYSTEM

Note: The Peoples' Commissariat of Defense re-absorbed the Red Navy and was renamed "The Peoples' Commissariat of the Armed Forces" in February 1946, and in March 1946 again renamed "Ministry of Armed Forces."

INTRODUCTION

1. GENERAL

The most essential element in the national defense system of the U. S. S. R. springs from the very nature of the totalitarian state. The political, government, economic, and military systems of such a state are so closely integrated that the same machinery and basic processes operate equally well in war and peace. In time of war, it is necessary only to shift the already totalized effort of the nation from civil development to the prosecution of the war. Control of national defense derives both advantages and disadvantages from centralization of control. Centralization of control permits quick changes in policies. It ties industrial production to defense requirements. It assures adequate financial support for necessary defense projects. Because military requirements are given priority over property rights or individual claims, it enables maximum utilization of new inventions, scientific discoveries, etc.

On the other hand, administrative difficulties arise in the regulation of the entire life of a nation through a huge bureaucracy. Valuable time is lost when the approval of many officials is needed for even the most minor projects. Great numbers of personnel are diverted from productive activity to checking, filing, and recording. It is difficult to train executives professionally when higher control revolves on political rather than professional questions. Inertia is inherent in the large bureaus. They tend to resist change, improvement, and general progress.

2. COMMUNIST PARTY SUPREMACY

Another fundamental feature of the national defense system of the U. S. S. R. is the supremacy of the Communist Party, which never has included more than 5 percent of the population, over all aspects

of national life. The constitutional structure of the Soviet Union permits absolute control of essential executive and legislative machinery through the control of a limited number of key positions at each governmental level. Political supervision of the army and the navy as well as civil commissariats ensures Party domination of these organizations and gives the Party a voice in operational and administrative decisions, particularly in matters of loyalty and appointment of personnel.

Although the Party, itself, maintains no armed forces, it has at its disposal two reliable organizations for the suppression of individual dissidence or collective rebellion. They are the troops and agents of the Peoples' Commissariats of Internal Affairs and State Security.

The flexibility of the Communist Party also has been a major factor in its continued strength. Party members generally are entrusted with all the major state offices. The Party constantly reinforces its control by extending membership to nearly all persons who distinguish themselves in any field.

Although the dominance of the Communist Party has continued throughout the history of the Soviet Union, many of its relationships with the Soviet state and the armed forces have changed and fluctuated since 1917. Basic political and propaganda doctrines have shifted from an early emphasis on international proletarian revolution to a more recent emphasis on intense national patriotism.

Lenin and Stalin have retained their eminent position, but Marx and Engels now compete with Peter the Great, Catherine, and even Ivan the Terrible for doctrinary prestige. A parallel change has taken place in the role of the armed forces. Although the armed forces were once a political instrument se-

lected only from the proletariat, they have become, since 1939, increasingly an instrument of national policy selected from all classes. This development of the armed forces as cohesive nonpolitical organizations with increasing autonomy has been subject to considerable fluctuations and reverses.

The contrast between officers of 1918, who were military technicians under the thumb of political commissars, and present officers, who are members of a corps with exceptional authority, is outstanding. However, interim reversals and repressions, such as the Great Purge of 1937 and the restoration of political commissars in 1941 and 1942, also must be considered.

3. DEVELOPMENT OF COORDINATION

The coordination of national defense and the internal structure of the Red Army have been developed by a trial-and-error process which began even before World War I. The authority and degree of independence of the various arms demonstrate that, in some respects, the national defense system is conservative. In other respects, the system has reverted to earlier practice after periods of radical experimentation.

For example, a combined commissariat of defense with co-equal divisions for ground, naval, air, and supply forces, in existence since early revolutionary days, was abandoned as unsuccessful in 1937 when the U. S. S. R. returned to its pre-revolutionary organization of separate army (including air forces) and navy (including naval aviation and coastal defenses). In February 1946, the U. S. S. R. reverted to combined armed forces. The navy was re-absorbed into the Commissariat of Defense, renamed Commissariat of the Armed Forces.

Many successful innovations of World War I were revived during World War II. They include a unified GHQ for control over both land and sea operations and an inter-commissariat council controlling production, supply, transportation, etc.

Experience in World War II has fostered further advances, such as the creation of unified command control over rear services and the replacement system. The present national defense system of the U. S. S. R. combines the lesson of two wars. It appears, in general, to be an effective system.

In a cursory comparison of the Soviet and the late German national defense system, a number of parallels appear. Among these are the unified General Headquarters, the organized replacement army, full separation between the administration of

officer and enlisted personnel, special armed organizations outside the armed forces for state security (the Soviet NKVD and NKGB are comparable to the German SS), and the delegation of major service functions to civil organizations (the Soviet Commissariats for Rail Transport and Signal Communications, etc., are comparable to the German *Todt* and *Reichsarbeitsdienst*). However, in purpose and in actual operation, these parallel organizations have been profoundly different in the two countries.

4. HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT

An understanding of the present structure and functioning of the national defense system of the U. S. S. R. requires consideration of the historical development of a number of major factors. These include the coordination of defense, the Supreme Command, the professionalization of the Red Army, and political control over the Red Army.

a. Development of the high command and administration. The concepts of a coordinated direction of civil and military problems in war and of a unified Supreme Command have developed in Tsarist Russia and the U. S. S. R. since 1912. At that time a GHQ (the Imperial Defense Council) was formed to conduct the operations of all land and sea forces. The Army General Staff was removed from the War Office at the same time and placed under the jurisdiction of the GHQ. The War Office thus was left free to concentrate on administrative matters.

In 1915, the War Office strengthened its control over production, transport, and communications with the formation of a Council of Defense, headed by the Minister of War and vested with almost unlimited powers. This council included representatives of industry, the important public bodies, and the military, naval, and other departments. Special committees were organized for transportation, fuel, and supplies.

The October Revolution of 1917 disrupted these organizations. By 1918, however, the new Soviet state had re-instituted a comparable structure. The Council of Workers' and Peasants' Defense, headed by Lenin, provided central control of policy and economic resources. Subordinate to it was the new GHQ, or Revolutionary Military Council, headed by Trotsky as Commander in Chief and Commissar of the Army and Navy. Administrative unification of the armed forces other than the security troops also followed. By 1924, the Commissariat of the Army and Navy presented the following structure:

General Staff of the Ground Forces.
 Main Administration of Army Personnel and
 Military Schools.
 Main Naval Department.
 Main Department of the Air Forces.
 Main Department of Supply.
 Main Sanitary and Veterinary Department.
 Political Administration of the Armed Forces.

Between 1934 and 1938, a series of sweeping changes promoted military preparedness. In 1937, the Council of Labor and Defense, which had succeeded the Council of Workers' and Peasant's Defense, was relieved of economic functions by the Supreme Economic Council, and in over-all military policies by the War Council in 1938. To permit more effective technical development of the Navy and the specialized arms and to reduce the concentration of authority under military command after the Purge, the Commissariat of the Army and the Navy was split in 1937, both divisions undergoing further internal organizational changes. The Revolutionary Military Council, abolished in 1934, was replaced in 1937 by the Supreme Military Council and the Supreme Naval Council.

Thus, between 1937 and 1941, the Commissariat of Defense emphasized specialization and autonomy within its structure. It included the Commissar, 14 assistant commissars, and the following divisions:

Affairs Administration (legal and internal administrative affairs).
 General Staff (operations, intelligence, signal communications, organization and training, air defense, rear areas, mobilization, fuels, topographic, historical, and administrative divisions).
 Air Forces Administration.
 Artillery Administration.
 Engineer Administration.
 Signal Administration.
 Antiaircraft Defense Administration.
 Chemical Defense Administration.
 Military Schools Administration.
 Combat Training Administration.
 Personnel Administration.
 Armament Administration.
 Moto-Mechanized Matériel Administration.
 Quartermaster Supplies Administration.
 Military Construction Administration.
 Central Military Cooperative Administration.
 Recreation Administration.

Sanitary Administration.
 Veterinary Administration.
 Finance Administration.

During the first year of the war with Germany, it became evident that decentralization had been too extensive and that the defense machinery had become too sprawling for efficient operation. Consequently, by 1942, changes were effected which virtually reverted the defense organization to that of World War I. A GHQ to determine strategy and conduct operations was formed directly under the State Defense Committee. It consisted of the key personnel of all the armed forces.

The General Staff was relieved of such administrative functions as mobilization and rear services, was removed from the control of the Commissariat of Defense and operationally was placed directly under the GHQ. A special organization within the Commissariat was formed to administer mobilization and replacement. The combat arms absorbed the development and supply functions peculiar to them. Artillery took over all ammunition and all ordnance, except armored. Miscellaneous service functions, such as quartermaster supply, cooperatives, recreation, and the medical, veterinary, and finance services, were merged under the Chief of the Rear Services of the Red Army. And finally, the appointment of a number of key individuals to two, three, and even four separate positions of authority guaranteed close cooperation between related agencies and helped to minimize the tendency toward administrative inefficiency often characteristic of a bureaucratic structure. This organization has remained fundamentally unchanged up to the present time, except for the reabsorption of the Navy.

b. Changes in status of armed forces. The development of the professional and political status of the armed forces, particularly of the Red Army, has developed along two basic lines. They are the growth of a cohesive, centralized standing army in opposition to attempted formation of localized forces (National Guard), and the gradual reduction of direct political control over the army.

During the Revolution and the Civil War, all professional army men were regarded with suspicion by the new Soviet regime. Former officers operated as "military technicians" under the strict control of political commissars. Trotsky, particularly, favored the ultimate abandonment of a standing army and the substitution of a militia from the proletariat. Frunze, on the other hand, constantly emphasized

the necessity for professional training and the immediate inauguration of a pyramidal program for training officers.

In 1924, a compromise had been reached. The strength of the Red Army and Navy was stabilized at 562,000. In addition, 150,000 security troops and 100,000 Frontier Guards were maintained. The rest of the available manpower was trained in territorial units, serving from 8 to 10 months over a period of 5 years. The entire army, standing and territorial, was increasingly placed on a republican basis, with separate forces for the Ukraine, White Russia, Transcaucasia and, ultimately, other republics.

No permanent status was accorded army personnel. At the same time, however, the training of the army developed gradually along the lines advocated by Frunze. As early as 1921, the first class of Soviet General Staff officers was graduated from the War College.

This situation continued until 1934, although one major change took place in 1928. At that time, participation in the armed forces of the U. S. S. R. was restricted to members of the working class, others being relegated to auxiliary service only. Army service became a life-time profession. Concurrently, maximum ages in grade were drastically reduced to eliminate older and less reliable personnel and to provide opportunity for younger Soviet officers.

From 1935 on, an increasingly tense situation forced gradual abandonment of the territorial system. All territorial units were placed on a full standing status by 1939. Increasing demands for manpower in the army led to the widening of conscription.

In 1939, the principle of armed service by all citizens, as embodied in the constitution of 1936, was promulgated in the universal service regulations. The need for mobility and flexibility of the army also led to the merging of all republican units into a single force.

The separate status and prestige of officer personnel increased with the growth of the army. In 1935, officer ranks were re-introduced, including the new title of "Marshal of the Soviet Union." In 1940, even the formerly hated title of "General" was resumed.

This trend was accelerated during the war with Germany. In 1943, officers' epaulets were authorized and the term "officer," itself, returned. Even in the official military press, comparisons were made with the Czarist officer corps. Increasing emphasis was placed on the military, social, and political leadership of the Soviet officer and on military life as a

permanent profession. At the same time, responsibility for the loyalty of its members and for the internal security of the army was transferred in its entirety to the Red Army. Thus, with the conclusion of World War II, the Red Army reached the peak of its prestige as a professional permanent group.

The history of political control over the armed forces has varied with changes in their status and prestige. In general, tight political control has coincided with periods of disaster and uncertainty; loosening of control with confidence and victory.

From the Revolution of 1917 until about 1923, the high command of the Red Army was vested in a group of Communist Party leaders. The heterogeneous units and formations which constituted the Red Army were commanded by "Party men." These political leaders were called War Commissars. The military officers, then termed "military specialists," played only a subordinate role. Credit was given the War Commissars for the successes of the Red Army in dealing with counterrevolutionary forces and general unrest. Lenin said, "Without the War Commissars, we should never have had a Red Army."

After 1923, when calm had been restored in Soviet Russia, it was decided to hand control of the Red Army over to the military to create an efficient and well-trained force. The high command was composed of military officers of political reliability. In those units and formations in which the senior army officer was considered politically reliable, the commissars were abolished. The test of political reliability was Party membership or, at the least, sympathy with the Communist Party. Such officers became commanders, and assistants responsible for political work in the unit or formation were assigned to them. War Commissars, who were considered to have acquired sufficient military experience during the revolutionary wars, in some cases became commanders. By about 1936, every unit and formation of the Red Army had a military commander.

All units and formations of the Red Army again were allotted specially selected political commissars following the treason trials of 1936-1938. This was carried out in all cases, regardless of the political reliability of the commander in question. The newly appointed commissars countersigned all orders of the commander and thus had veto power on all decisions.

During the Finnish Campaign of 1939-1940, it was found that considerable difference of opinion existed between commanders and commissars. The

commissars used their powers to interfere with purely tactical decisions, about which they had insufficient knowledge. Reverses in the field resulted. Accordingly, in 1940, commissars were abolished for the second time and were reduced to the status of assistant commanders for political matters. Among military commanders, no distinction was made on the basis of Party membership.

The Political Administration of the Red Army was renamed the Main Political Administration. Former Commissars of Red Army and Party members were required not only to disseminate propaganda and instruction inside the army, but also to help to increase Red Army prestige among the civilian population.

The major reverses which followed the initial German offensive against the Soviet Union (1941-1942) led to the reinstatement of the commissars to restore the morale, discipline, and patriotism of the Army. The commander remained the head of the unit or formation and the commissar became, to quote the official directive, its "Father and Soul."

The commissar was required to suppress any trace of treasonable or counterrevolutionary activities, to maintain the morale and patriotism of the troops, to supervise propaganda and political work, and to support the commander in carrying out operational plans. He was responsible, equally with the commander, for maintaining the "fighting strength of the troops." The power of veto, previously mentioned, was revived. This special position of the commissars, most of whom had no military experience, caused serious personal friction between them and the professional military commanders.

In October 1942, when the military situation was critical, Stalin decided that all other considerations should give way to purely military interests. Accordingly, for the third time, the abolition of commissars was ordered. They reverted to the status of assistant commanders for political matters, or chiefs of political administrations and departments of armies and fronts. They were given appropriate military ranks. These were equivalent, in divisions and lower commands, to that of the chief of staff.

Commissars were, in most cases, required to attend courses in basic military subjects. They were not expected to be able to command the units or formations to which they belonged. Although they assisted with military training, they did not share tactical responsibility with the commanders. Polit-

ical control of military command within the armed forces has continued on this basis to the present.

5. FUTURE TRENDS

A number of major changes have occurred and will occur during the transition of the U. S. S. R. from war to peace. The State Defense Committee was dissolved in September 1945. It may be that this will be followed by the dissolution of the GHQ and that the General Staff will be returned to a status of full subordination to the Peoples' Commissariat of Defense. Responsibility for mobilization and replacement probably will revert to the General Staff as it becomes more of a planning and less of an administrative function. The unification of rear services and the extensive functions of the arms probably will continue.

All evidence indicates retention of independent status by the security forces (NKVD and NKGB). It is to be expected that there will be greater independence for the air arm. It is a distinct possibility that the growing importance of the air forces and the expansion of their proportionate strength may lead to the emergence of a separate commissariat for air. Of all the arms, air is certain to witness the most sweeping revisions in organization, equipment, and techniques. A trend that is worthy of note is the diminishing frequency of subordination of supporting air units to lower echelon command headquarters in favor of army or army group control of ever greater masses of tactical air power.

Tighter political control will unquestionably be reestablished over the Red Army, both through intensive indoctrination of its members and through complete elimination of possible unreliable elements.

Another measure designed to lessen the concerted power of army leadership is the constitutional change of 1944 which transforms the Peoples' Commissariat of Defense from an All-Union to a Union-Republican commissariat, with subordinate commissariats for each of the republics. There is little evidence that this change is taking place, except for the organization of Republican Commissariats of Defense by the Ukrainian and White Russian S. S. R's. In fact, the latest organization of the military districts (1946), which cuts across republic boundaries, may be considered a negative indication.

Correspondingly, possible reintroduction of a territorial system is not to be anticipated when consideration is given to the mass drive, at the end of the war, to re-enlist the maximum number of noncommissioned officers in the Red Army.

PART I. THE STATE, THE PARTY, AND THE ARMED FORCES

Section I. U. S. S. R. CONSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURE

The constitution of the U. S. S. R. (1936) vests the highest legislative and executive powers of the nation in the Supreme Soviet, a representative body of two chambers. Representation in one chamber, the Soviet of the Union, is based on one deputy per each 300,000 population. The other chamber, the Soviet of Nationalities, draws its representation on the basis of 25 deputies from each of the Union Republics, 11 from each Autonomous Republic, 5 from each Autonomous *Oblast*, and 1 from each national *Okrug*.

In peacetime, the Supreme Soviet meets biannually, each session lasting approximately 1 week. Between sessions, the powers of the Supreme Soviet are delegated to the Presidium, which is elected by both chambers sitting in joint session. The Supreme Soviet or the Presidium appoints the commissars of the All-Union and Union-Republican commissariats. These collectively form the Soviet or Council of Peoples' Commissars, the chief executive and administrative body of the state.

The Council of Peoples' Commissars consists of the heads of 24 All-Union commissariats which have no counterpart within the republics, 22 Union-Republican commissariats which have counterparts within the republics and operate, at least theoretically, through them, and approximately 15 main administrations and committee chiefs of commissariat importance.

For more efficient operation, this unwieldy body delegates its powers to a smaller number of councils and committees. Especially are they delegated to the Supreme Economic Council and its subordinate organizations for defense industries, such as metallurgy and chemistry, machinery production, fuel and electricity, agricultural procurement, and consumer goods.

Between 1941 and its dissolution at the end of World War II, the State Defense Committee of the Council of Peoples' Commissars was the highest operating committee, and constituted a virtually all-powerful body under the direction of Stalin, Chairman of the Council of Peoples' Commissars, Commissar of Defense, and Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces (fig. 1).

The administration of justice is vested in the Supreme Court as the highest judicial organ of the

U. S. S. R. It supervises all courts of the U. S. S. R. Courts are established by the Supreme Soviet for all political divisions of the nation. The Supreme Court and special courts with All-Union jurisdiction are staffed by appointees of the Supreme Soviet. The Military Collegium of the Supreme Court is especially charged with the administration of justice within the armed forces. It supervises the entire system of military courts through the Chief Prosecutor of the Commissariat of Defense.

Section II. THE COMMUNIST PARTY

More important than the formal governmental structure is the Communist Party. The existence of the Party is specifically authorized in the 1936 Constitution as essential to the preservation and protection of the foundations of the state. Although the formation of trade unions, cooperative associations, youth organizations, and cultural, technical, and scientific societies is an ensured right of the people and such organizations may nominate candidates for election to the Supreme Soviet and other bodies, "the most active and politically conscious citizens in the ranks of the working class and other strata of the workers unite in the Communist Party of the U. S. S. R." These provisions guarantee an unchallengeable position for the Communist Party, and render opposition to it illegal.

Because the Communist Party is the only organized political entity in the U. S. S. R., it alone can provide the trained personnel for key government positions. Domination by the Party is further assured by the fact that the Supreme Soviet and the comparable local legislative bodies are very large and meet but infrequently for brief periods. Consequently, not only is interim power delegated to the corresponding Presidia, but so is the actual review and control of executive activities. Additional concentration of power is facilitated by the Soviet practice of assigning multiple correlated positions to the same individual.

Internally, the Communist Party consists of a centrally-controlled hierarchy which is ultimately based on small semi-secret "cells" in every part and organization of the U. S. S. R. This network maintains its own direct communications, independent of the state. Discipline within the Party is strict, and deviation from authorized doctrine or policy is followed by immediate expulsion or other punishment.

Every possible measure is applied to give the Com-

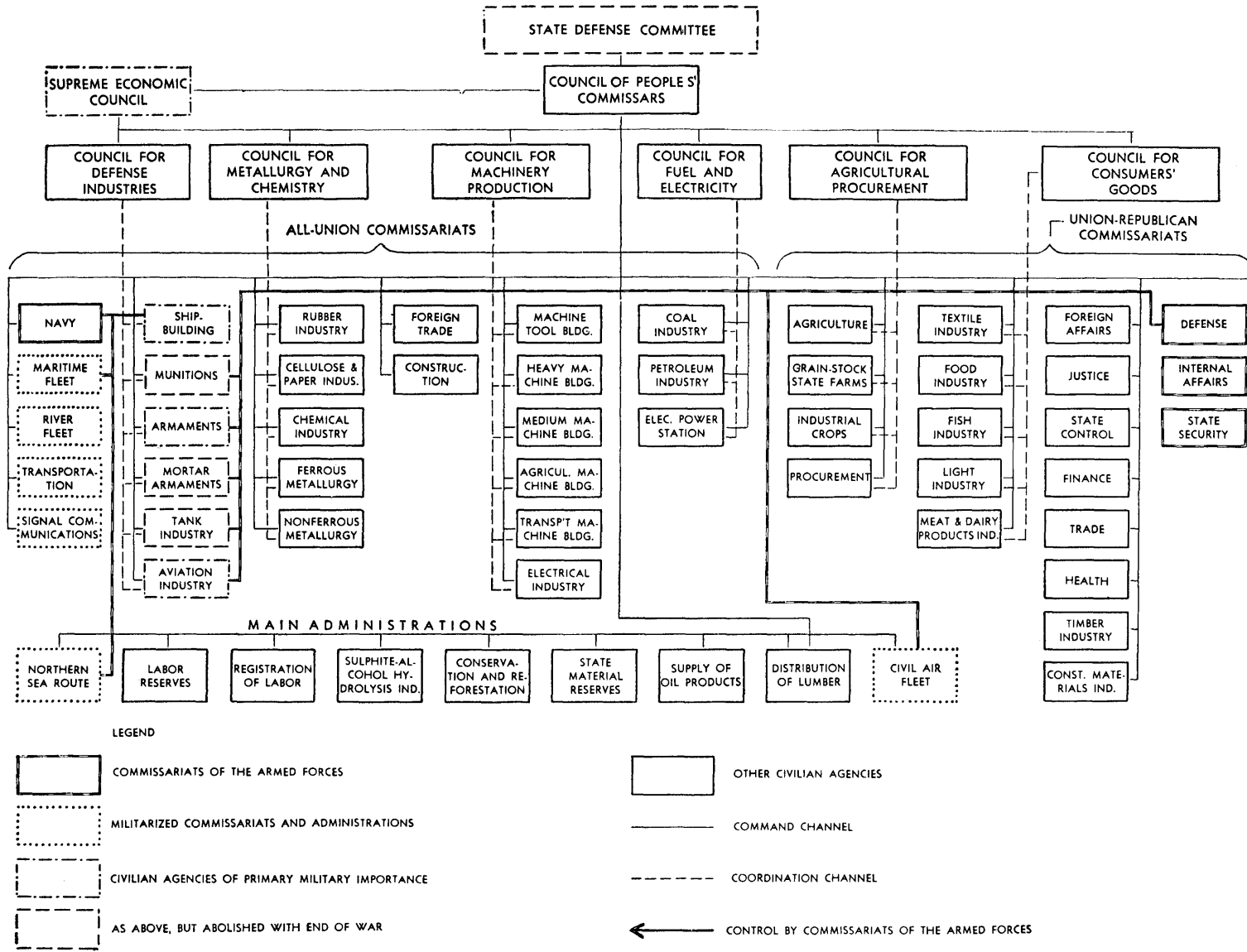


Figure 1. The state administrative structure and the armed forces.

munist Party maximum political, social, and economic prestige. It is given credit for every type of successful national achievement. Persons in the U. S. S. R. who distinguish themselves in any way are solicited for membership. The Party is permitted to criticize inefficiency or political deviations. In short, the Communist Party attempts to maintain itself as an elite ruling class directing the state, but apart from and above it.

Another vital source of power of the Communist Party is its legally-sanctioned political tutelage of the armed forces. Its control over the security forces (NKVD and NKGB) and the Navy has been markedly effective at all times. Party control over the Red Army, although subject to major fluctuations in the past, still is pronounced. Supervision of the effectiveness and loyalty of individuals, of their training status, and of their morale, are functions of the Main Political Administration of the Red Army. The Main Political Administration of the Red Army reports directly to the Communist Party. During World War II, the Communist Party was in complete charge of all partisan operations.

A final source of power is the control by the Communist Party of the youth of the U. S. S. R. The *Komsomols*, or League of Communist Youth, the Pioneers, and the *Octobrists* cover even the youngest age groups and provide the major outlet for their constructive play and social activities.

Section III. ARMED AND AUXILIARY FORCES

1. GENERAL

The armed and auxiliary forces of the Soviet Union are of three types: military, semi-military and civil (militarized in time of war). The military forces include the Red Army and its air forces, and the Red Navy and its air component. The semi-military armed forces are the troops of the Peoples' Commissariats of Internal and State Security. These include frontier and internal guards, local police, and other armed components for the security of the nation in time of peace or war.

The entire strength of certain other organizations is mobilized in direct support of military operations in time of war. Militarized during World War II were the Peoples' Commissariats of Transportation, Maritime Fleet, River Transport, and Signal Communications, as well as the Main Administrations of the Civil Air Fleet and the Northern Sea Route and their operating and maintenance personnel.

Their authority and operations extended not only throughout the Soviet Union, but well into the zone of operations. Uniformed personnel of these civil organizations were subject to military law and discipline but, in all areas, remained under the direct control only of their respective commissariats or main administrations. (For these and other civilian organizations which were armed or mobilized for World War II, see Chapter IV.) It is important to note in this connection that the Soviet concept is that all citizens are equally liable for service in the militia, if not in the regular military forces.

No one of these forces can be called a special instrument of the Communist Party. In striking contrast to the methods of the National Socialist Party in Germany during the period of its development and greatest success, the Soviet Communist Party has never been an armed force in itself. Nor has the Communist Party ever permitted one of the armed forces of the Soviet Union to come into conflict with another as a specially favored instrument of the Party.

A carefully exact division of responsibility and authority between the troops of the Commissariat of Internal Affairs (NKVD) and the troops (Red Army) of the Commissariat of Defense (NKO) has been firmly established and jealously protected by the Soviet government. The Great Purge of the Red Army and its command in 1937 was inspired by the NKVD, as Party custodian of the internal security of the state. It is significant, however, that the Purge was conducted by due process of law involving the entire governmental structure, rather than by the troops of the NKVD alone.

2. COMPONENTS OF HIGH COMMAND

Throughout the Red Army and Navy, a distinct division exists between command channels and agencies and administrative channels and agencies. (For administrative channels and agencies, see Part III.)

The "high command" of the armed forces embraces all agencies in the chain of operational command for all elements of the army and the navy. It includes, under the State Defense Committee, the Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces and his General Headquarters, the Chief of the General Staff of the Red Army, the Supreme Naval Council, the Commissariat of the Navy, and the Naval Staff.

Army command stems from the General Headquarters. It extends through the Chief of the General Staff of the Red Army to army groups and other field forces. (See Part II.)

Naval command also stems from the General Headquarters. It extends through the Supreme Naval Council, the Commissariat of the Navy, and the Naval Staff to the active naval units. The four commissariats of the Armed Forces (Defense, Navy, Internal Affairs [NKVD], and State Security [NKGB] maintain administrative and technical control, but were subordinated in varying degree in policy questions to the GHQ during World War II.

With the end of the war and the dissolution of the State Defense Committee, it is believed that the respective commissariats have again become dominant and increasingly autonomous. It is not certain whether GHQ for all the armed forces will be continued or whether the independent Supreme Military Council of the Army will be revived as the individual components of the armed forces regain their independence.

3. THE RED ARMY

The chief components of the Red Army are the military districts and the field forces (active army).

a. Military districts. The military districts comprise the basic zones of the interior organization of the U. S. S. R. They are responsible directly to the Peoples' Commissariat of Defense. For replacement purposes, they are controlled by the Main Administration for the Formation and Equipment of Units.

In the last 20 years, the number of military districts has increased steadily while their average area has decreased steadily. A more simple and efficient organization has thus become possible. There now are 30 military districts (figs. 2 and 3).

Each district is directed by a commander and a military council. Each is capable, on the average, of raising an infantry army in the first echelon of mobilization.

Territorially, the military districts coincide with the *Oblasts* of the U. S. S. R. Although military districts may include more than one *Oblast*, their boundaries do not cross those of the *Oblast*. No relation with the Union-Republics exists (fig. 4). The basic operating element of the military districts is the county (*rayon*), although the more densely populated districts may have intermediate (sub-district) control organizations.

The responsibilities of the military districts are as follows:

- Conduct combat and political training.
- Ensure mobilization readiness of troops, transport, and signal communications.
- Conduct the replacement program.

Study and select command and administrative officers, other than general officers or officers of front-line units.

Maintain constant check over the loyalty of all personnel.

Conduct counterintelligence.

Ensure the requisition, procurement, storage, and movement of supplies, and of medical and veterinary facilities.

Supervise antiaircraft defense, including passive measures of the civil population.

Supervise pre-military training and draft board activities.

Guide defense construction work.

Ensure proper civil-military coordination within the district.

b. Field forces. In the field forces of the Red Army, the basic division is not so much a separation of the ground and air components as a separation of tactical from strategic forces.

The tactical forces of the Red Army are composed of army groups (fronts), each embracing a number of air and ground armies and other components. The number and size of army groups varies. In 1943, for example, there were 17, but the number had been reduced to 7 shortly after the close of the war with Japan. The seven were as follows in January 1946:

<i>Group</i>	<i>Location</i>
In Europe:	
Northern Group.....	Old and new Poland.
Central Group.....	Austria, Hungary.
Southern Group.....	Bulgaria, Rumania.
Occupation Group, Germany---	Germany.
In the Far East:	
Trans-Baikal Front.....	Trans-Baikal Military District, Outer Mongolia, Eastern Manchuria.
Second Far Eastern Front.....	Khabarovsk Krai, Northern Manchuria.
First Far Eastern Front.....	Maritime Krai, Western Manchuria, Northern Korea.

An army group (front) consists basically of two or more infantry armies, one to two air armies, a tank corps, a mechanized corps, and artillery, mortar, rocket, and antiaircraft divisions. (For detailed organization of army groups, see Chapter III).

The strategic forces of the Red Army also are ground and air formations. The principal ground components are tank armies, artillery corps, and fortified areas. Certain of the fortified areas are under



Figure 2. Military districts of the U. S. S. R. (Western area).

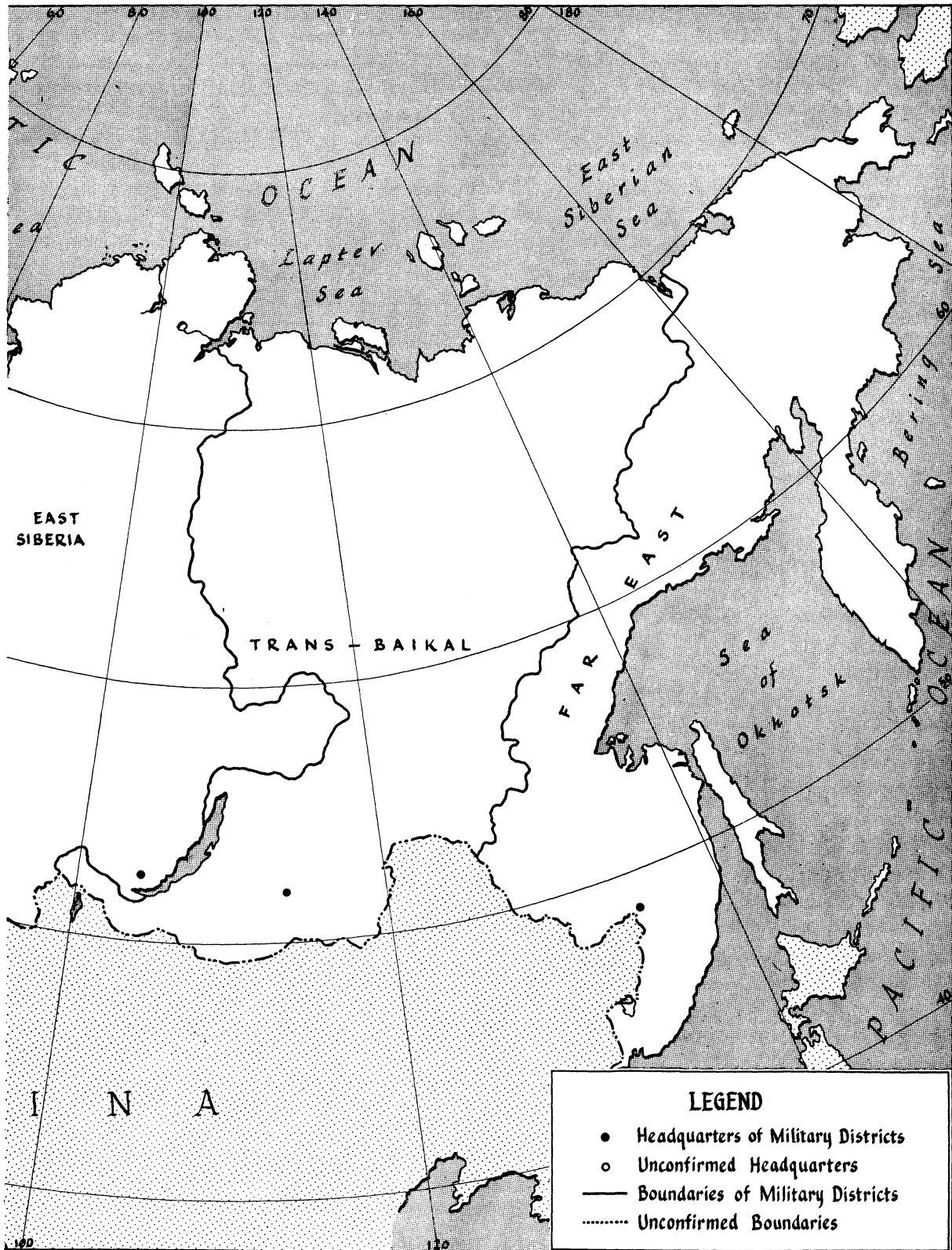


Figure 3. Military districts of the U. S. S. R. (Eastern area).

Military districts	Headquarters	Political components
White Sea	Kemi (?)	Petsamo (?), Murmansk Ob., Karelian A. S. S. R., Archangel Ob., Komi A. S. S. R., Nentso Nat'l. Ok.
Leningrad	Leningrad	Leningrad Ob., Vologoda Ob.
Baltic	Riga	Estonian S. S. R., Latvian S. S. R.
Special	Koeningsberg (?)	Lithuanian S. S. R., Koeningsberg area (?)
Minsk	Minsk	Belorussian S. S. R., Vitebsk Ob., Minsk Ob., Mogilev Ob., Polesye Ob., Gomel Ob.
Lvov	Lvov	Lvov Area (?).
Carpathian	(?)	Moldavia.
Kiev	Kiev	Zhitomir Ob., Kiev Ob., Chernigov Ob., Kamenets-Podolsk Ob., Vinnitsa Ob.
Odessa	Odessa	Odessa Ob., Kirovograd Ob.
Moscow	Moscow	Kalinin Ob., Yaroslavl Ob., Smolensk Ob., Moscow Ob., Tula Ob., Ryazan Ob.
Gorkii	Gorkii	Ivanovo Ob., Gorkii Ob.
Voronezh	Voronezh	Voronezh Ob., Tambov Ob.
Orel	Orel	Orel Ob., Kursk Ob.
Kharkov	Kharkov	Sumy Ob., Dnepropetrovsk Ob., Poltava Ob., Kharkov Ob., Stalino Ob., Voroshilovgrad Ob.
Tauric	Simferopol	Nicolayev Ob., Zaporozhiye Ob.
Kazan	Kazan	Kirov Ob., Tatar A. S. S. R., Churvas A. S. S. R., Mari A. S. S. R., Udmurt A. S. S. R.
Volga	Kuibyshev	Penza Ob., Kuibyshev Ob., Saratov Ob., German-Volga A. S. S. R., Mordva A. S. S. R.
Steppe	Stalingrad	Stalingrad Ob., Kalmyk A. S. S. R.
Don	Rostov	Rostov Ob.
Kuban	Krasnodar	Krasnodar Krai (containing Adyghey Aut. Ob.).
Stavropol	Voroshilov	Ordzhonikidze Krai, North Ossetian A. S. S. R., Karachayev Aut. Ob., Chechen-Ingushian A. S. S. R., Kabardino-Balkar A. S. S. R., Circassian Aut. Ob.
Tiflis	Tiflis	South Ossetian, Aut. Ob., Nakhichevan A. S. S. R., Adzharian A. S. S. R., Armenian S. S. R., Abkhazian A. S. S. R., Georgian S. S. R.
Baku	Baku	Kaghistan A. S. S. R., Azerbaidzhan S. S. R., (containing Nagarno-Karabakh).
Ural	Sverdlovsk (?)	Komipermyak Ob., Perm Ob., Sverdlovsk Ob., Chelyabinsk Ob.
South Ural	Chkalov	Bashkir A. S. S. R., Chkalov Ob., West Kazakhstan., Aktyubinsk Ob., Guryev Ob.
Central Asia (?)	(?)	North Kazakhstan Ob., Kustanay Ob., Akmolinsk Ob., Pavlodar Ob., East Kazakhstan Ob., Semipalatinsk Ob., Karaganda Ob., Alma-Ata Ob.
Turkestan	Tashkent	Kara-Kalpak A. S. S. R., Kzyl-Orda Ob., Dzhambul Ob., South Kazakhstan Ob., Kirghiz S. S. R., Osh Ob., Dzhahal-Abad Ob., Frunze Ob., Tyanshan Ob., Issyk-Kul Ob., Uzbek S. S. R., Samarkand Ob., Tashkent Ob., Fergana Ob., Tadzhik S. S. R., Leninabad Ob., Stalinabad Ob., Kulyab Ob., Gorm Ob., Gorno-Budakhshan Aut. Ob., Krasnovodsk Ob., Turkmen S. S. R., Tashauz Ob., Khorezm Ob., Mary Ob., Chardzhou Ob., Bukhara Ob.
West Siberia	Novosibirsk	Omsk Ob., Yamalo-Nentso Nat'l. Ok., Ostyako-Vogul Nat'l. Ok., Novosibirsk Ob., Altai Krai Oiroi Aut. Ob.
East Siberia	Irkutsk	Krasnoyarsk Krai., Taimyr Nat'l Ok., Evenki Nat'l Ok., Irkutsk Ob., Ustordo-Buryant Mongolian Nat'l Ok., Khakass Aut. Ob., Tannu Tuva.
Trans-Baikal	Chita	Chita Ob., Aghinskaye-Buryat Mongolian Nat'l. Ok., Buryat Mongolian A. S. S. R., Yakutsk A. S. S. R.
Far East	Khabarovsk	Chukotsk Nat'l Ok., Koryak Nat'l Ok., Kamchatka Ob., Khabarovsk Krai., Lower Amur Ob., Amur Ob., Jewish Aut. Ob., Ussuri Ob., Primorsk Krai.

Abbreviations used in above list:
 A. S. S. R.—Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic.
 Aut. Ob.—Autonomous Oblast.
 Nat'l C' .—National Okrug.
 Ob.—Oblast.
 S. S. R.—Soviet Socialist Republic (Union-Republic).

NOTE.—The boundaries, names, and headquarters of most of the military districts are well established. However, the existence of the Orel and Central Asia Military Districts is uncertain, and the boundaries of the Tauric, Leningrad, Baltic, and South Ural Military Districts are unconfirmed. It is possible that Estonia is a part of the Leningrad Military District, and Lithuania is a part of the Baltic. Thus the Special Military District includes only East Prussia.

Figure 4. Political components of military districts of the U. S. S. R.

naval rather than army command. Other strategic forces are the Civil Air Fleet, the Long-Range Bomber Force (an air army), and the PVO, or Air Defense Force.

The PVO is a separate part of the Red Army only in its operating elements. Its headquarters is charged with coordination of the administrative supervision, by the Commissariat of Internal Affairs (NKVD), over passive civil defense measures and the administrative supervision of the antiaircraft, fighter, and air-warning systems. The latter administration is accomplished by the appropriate main administrations of the Commissariat of Defense.

In combat zones, PVO forces are organized into the defense fronts, consisting of antiaircraft and fighter armies, for the protection of major targets. PVO fronts have direct command of the air observation, signal intercept, early warning, and signal communications systems and operations in their zones.

Elsewhere in the U. S. S. R., PVO operations are controlled on the basis of military districts. In each district, this is accomplished by an Air Defense Force Staff.

4. THE RED NAVY

a. **High command.** The high command of the Soviet Naval Forces differs from that of the Red Army in that the Commissariat of the Navy (NKVMF) has remained a link in the operational chain of command. Under the command of the General Headquarters, the Supreme Naval Council is the highest authority over naval operations and affairs and is comparable to the Military Council of an army or army group. The Commissariat of the Navy is directly subordinate to the Supreme Naval Council.

The chief agencies within and subordinate to the Commissariat are: the Naval Staff, with divisions

similar to those of the Army General Staff, but including a Hydrographic Division; the Coastal Defense Force; and various service and administrative offices comparable to those in the Commissariat of Defense. Included are an Administration for Naval Education, a Main Political Administration, a Signal Communications Administration, and the Office of the Surgeon General.

b. **Forces under command.** In time of war, the naval high command controls, in addition to naval forces, the Peoples' Commissariat for the Shipbuilding Industry, the Chief Administration of the Northern Sea Route, and the Maritime Fleet.

The Soviet Navy is organized into fleets and flotillas as follows:

- The Northern Fleet.
- The Black Sea Fleet.
- The Pacific Fleet.
- The North Pacific Fleet.
- The Azov Flotilla.
- The Dnieper Flotilla.
- The Amur River Flotilla.
- The Sungari River Flotilla.
- The Danube Flotilla.

A number of fortified areas along the coasts of the U. S. S. R. are under exclusive control of the naval command. Examples are the White Sea Defense Area and the Vladivostok Defense Area.

Section IV. CIVIL-MILITARY RELATIONSHIPS

1. GENERAL

The readiness of a totalitarian state for total mobilization and the extent to which it became a reality in the U. S. S. R. during World War II has already

<i>Commissariat of Defense</i>	<i>Civil Government</i>
Main Administration of the Air Forces	Commissariat of Aviation Industry.
Main Administration of Artillery Troops	{ Commissariat of Armaments.
	{ Commissariat of Mortar Armaments.
	{ Commissariat of Munitions.
Main Administration of Tank and Mechanized Troops . . .	Commissariat of the Tank Industry.
Main Administration of Signal Troops	Commissariat of Signal Communications.
Main Administration of Chemical Warfare Troops	Commissariat of the Chemical Industry.
Main Administration for Antiaircraft Defense	Commissariat of Internal Affairs (NKVD).
Main Administration of Railway Transport	Commissariat of Transportation.
Main Administration for Intendance Service	Council for Consumers Goods.
Main Administration for Supply of Rations	Council for Agricultural Procurement.
Main Administration for Road Construction	Commissariat of Internal Affairs (NKVD).
Main Administration for Medical Services	Commissariat of Health.
Main Administration for Personnel	{ Central Administration for Labor Reserves.
Main Administration for the Formation and } Equipment of Units. }	{ Central Administration for Registration and Distribution of Labor Forces.
	{ Commissariat of Internal Affairs (NKVD).
Main Administration for Counterintelligence	{ Commissariat of State Security (NKGB).

Figure 5. Parallel agencies, military and civil, to promote close coordination.

been discussed. The closest cooperation between the armed forces, and their control agencies, and the entire structure of the civil economy was provided and enforced by the central government (fig. 5).

2. MILITARIZATION

The wartime position of such semi-military organizations as the troops of the Commissariats of Internal Affairs and State Security and of such civil organizations as those of the Commissariats of Transportation and Signal Communications also has been discussed. (For further detail concerning them, see Chapter IV.) These organs of the state and their rank and file became auxiliary forces to the field armies and fleets in the fullest sense of the word. Yet they did not lose their nation-wide functions and responsibilities.

It is worth noting that, in these and other commissariats, military ranks were conferred during World War II on a number of key personnel and, in some cases, well down into the ranks of the commissariat and subordinate personnel. Military rank was given the Commissar of the Armaments Industry, for example, and to many members of the State Medical Service. Conversely, many of the outstanding military personalities of World War II were elected to the Supreme Soviet. One, Marshal Budenny, was a member of the Presidium as well.

3. ECONOMIC MOBILIZATION

In World War II, the numerous commissariats which direct the national economy were brought into direct services to the armed forces nearly as closely as the formally militarized commissariats. The recommendations of the General Staff, as the chief agency for the planning and evaluation of field operations, and of the technical arms and services of the Red Army became the basis for State Defense Committee directives issued to those responsible for planning and administering all phases of war production.

The mobilization sections, created with the first Five Year Plan of 1928, in the plants, factories, and installations of the economic commissariats, put their plans for conversion to war production into effect. They remained in close contact with the appropriate arm through specialized liaison officers. Horses and motor transport had been selected in all parts of the U. S. S. R. during peacetime for consignment to the armed forces in the event of war. These were checked every 6 months to determine their readiness for transfer to the armed forces.

Coordination between commissariats was put on a more efficient footing through the institution of economic councils with extensive power over groups of industries and national resources. Six such economic councils were formed, each generally composed of the commissars of a number of related industries or trusts. The chairmen sit together as the Supreme Economic Council.

The decisions of the Supreme Economic Council superseded those of the State Planning Committee, which had produced the Five Year Plans. (This change was instituted because no plan of comparable scope in time, or requiring as much time in preparation as the Five Year Plan, can be appropriate in the pressing years of a war for national survival.) The creation of the Supreme Economic Council, both a planning committee and a body representative of the chief industries and trusts, further guaranteed full-scale efficient management of the resources and production capacity of the nation toward the needs of the armed forces.

Further evidence of the Soviet realization of total war within the peacetime framework of the state is to be found in the system of universal pre-induction military training of the populace, whether subject to the draft or exempt. Within every organized unit of Soviet society, whether industrial, political, cultural, or educational, there were representatives of the Red Army who were attached as instructors in military science. Instruction was graded appropriately to the age, sex, and occupation of the people involved. Spare time, within very strict limits, was devoted entirely to such training in all parts of the U. S. S. R.

Training programs were prescribed and administered by the Red Army through its representatives. Over-all control of the various programs rested in the Commissariat of Defense, where the plans of the State Defense Committee, General Headquarters, and General Staff could best be applied to the military training of the populace.

The absolute legal hegemony of the Red Army and Navy in their zones of operations in time of war also deserves mention. As a right established by Soviet law, the armed forces may, given a state of sufficient urgency, draft for their use any or all of the equipment and populace of any area of the U. S. S. R. This may be done without regard to existing laws, decrees, or directives.

Close coordination also has characterized other relationships between the armed forces and the civil

economy. This is true of such affairs as the construction of military facilities, the development of new weapons and equipment, and the handling of discharged soldiers and of pensions for veterans and the families of the dead and wounded.

It can be said without exaggeration that every element in the national economy and every person old enough to do his share is included within the national defense system of the Soviet Union in time of war.

PART II. ARMED FORCES HIGH COMMAND, EARLY 1945

Section I. THE STATE DEFENSE COMMITTEE

1. POSITION AND FUNCTIONS

The State Defense Committee, created 1 July 1941 and dissolved in September 1945, is the supreme governmental body in time of war. In effect, it assumes the functions of both the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet and of the Council of Peoples' Commissars. Thus it has final authority over the armed forces and all the commissariats of the Soviet Union.

The relationship of the State Defense Committee with the Supreme Economic Council, with other special councils and committees of the government, and with the commissariats does not differ from that of the Council of Peoples' Commissars in normal times.

For over-all control of the conduct of a war, however, the State Defense Committee issues directives on major issues of strategy directly to the General Headquarters, which controls the armed forces engaged with the enemy. Thus the State Defense Committee bypasses the administrative machinery of military commissariats in matters of operational strategy.

2. COMPOSITION AND SIGNIFICANCE

The enormous range of powers vested in the State Defense Committee by virtue of its membership is clearly indicated by the titles of the following members composing the committee:

STALIN, Generalissimo: Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces, Chief of the General Headquarters, Chairman of the Council of Peoples' Commissars, Commissar of Defense, Chairman of the *Politburo* of the Central Committee of the Communist Party.

BULGANIN, General Armii (General, U. S.): Deputy Commissar of Defense, Vice Chairman of the Council of Peoples' Commissars, Chairman of the Council of Metallurgical and Chemical Industries, member of the *Politburo* of the Central Committee of the Communist Party.

MOLOTOV: Commissar of Foreign Affairs, Chairman of the Supreme Economic Council,

Deputy Chairman of the Council of Peoples' Commissars, member of the *Politburo* of the Central Committee of the Communist Party.

BERIYA, Marshal of the Soviet Union: Commissar of Internal Affairs and Chief of Troops of the NKVD, member of the Council of Peoples' Commissars, member of the *Politburo* of the Central Committee of the Communist Party.

MALENKOV: Member of the Presidium of the the Supreme Soviet, member of the *Politburo* and *Orgburo*, Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party, head of the Central Administration for Personnel of the Central Committee of the Communist Party, President of the Committee for the Restoration of Liberated Areas, member of the Council of Peoples' Commissars.

KAGANOVICH: Member of the Council of Peoples' Commissars, member of the *Politburo* of the Central Committee of the Communist Party, former Commissar of Transportation, member of the All-Union Committee on Transportation.

MIKOYAN: Commissar of Foreign Trade, member of the Council of Peoples' Commissars, member of the *Politburo* of the Central Committee of the Communist Party.

VOZNESENSKI: Member of the Council of Peoples' Commissars, members of the *Politburo* of the Central Committee of the Communist Party, Chairman of the Council for Defense Industry.

It will be noted that all members of the State Defense Committee are members of the Council of Peoples' Commissars and of the *Politburo* of the Central Committee of the Communist Party.

The State Defense Committee is not equipped with a large staff. It relies upon the numerous committees, councils, commissariats, and the General Headquarters for expert advice, for preparation of detailed plans, for recommendations, and for the implementation of its policy decisions. It may thus

properly be called a "committee," a small group of key leaders responsible for decisions of policy and affairs of state.

Section II. GENERAL HEADQUARTERS

1. POSITION AND FUNCTIONS

The personal Staff of Stalin, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, is known as the *Stavka* or General Headquarters of the Armed Forces. The General Headquarters of the Armed Forces translates the policy decisions of the State Defense Committee into military action and directs the prosecution of the war through the Chief of Staff of the Army and through the Commissariat and Staff of the Navy.

The General Headquarters of the Armed Forces was formed to replace the Supreme Military and Naval Councils of earlier years in the joint and coordinated command of the Army and Navy. It looks to the General Staffs of the Army and Navy and to their commissariats for plans and recommendations for carrying out major strategic operations and in questions of administration.

The General Headquarters is not equipped with special staffs, nor is it divided into sections. The majority of its members are major chiefs of the armed forces command and administration. Thus the major staffs of the armed forces function as working staffs of the General Headquarters.

Constitutionally, the Commissariats of Defense and Navy are subordinate only to the State Defense Committee. The General Headquarters has no direct authority over them. However, the members of the Headquarters exercise effective control over the administrative affairs of the armed forces by virtue of their appointments as deputy commissars. This dual appointment of key personnel assures close coordination of field command with administration.

The GHQ is not a headquarters in the usual sense of the term. It is, like the State Defense Committee, a periodic meeting of the chief military leaders of the high command structure for the consideration of major strategic plans.

2. COMPOSITION AND SIGNIFICANCE

The General Headquarters consists of 12 to 14 of the top military leaders. They are selected so as to represent the chief branches, arms, and services.

The composition of the GHQ in early 1945 amply illustrates its power and scope and the technical qualifications of its members. It is important to

note that all members of the GHQ are members of the Communist Party.

STALIN, Generalissimo: Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces, Commissar of Defense, etc.

ZHUKOV (Chief of GHQ), Marshal of the Soviet Union: First Deputy Commissar of Defense, Commander of the First Belorussian Army Group.

VASILEVSKI, Marshal of the Soviet Union: Chief of Staff of the Red Army, Deputy Commissar of Defense.

KUZNETSOV, Admiral of the Fleet: Peoples' Commissar of the Navy, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party.

NOVIKOV, Chief Marshal of Air Forces: Chief of the Red Army Forces, Deputy Commissar of Defense.

TIMOSHENKO, Marshal of the Soviet Union: Deputy Commissar of Defense (formerly Commissar, then First Deputy Commissar), Inspector of Infantry, GHQ Coordinator of the Second and Third Ukrainian Army Groups.

VOROSHILOV, Marshal of the Soviet Union: Member of the Council of Peoples' Commissars and of the *Politburo* of the Central Committee of the Communist Party, former member of the State Defense Committee and Deputy Commissar of Defense, Commander in Chief of Partisans.

SHAPOSHNIKOV, Marshal of the Soviet Union: Member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party, formerly Chief of Staff of the Red Army, Deputy Commissar of Defense, Chief of the Historical Division of the General Staff.

KHRULEV, *General Armii* (General, U. S.): Chief of Rear Services of the Red Army, Deputy Commissar of Defense.

VORONOV, Chief Marshal of Artillery: Chief of Artillery Troops of the Red Army, Deputy Commissar of Defense.

FEDORENKO, Chief Marshal of Tanks and Mechanized Troops: Chief of Tank and Mechanized Troops of the Red Army, Deputy Commissar of Defense.

BUDENNY, Marshal of Soviet Union: Member of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, Chief of Cavalry Troops of the Red Army, Deputy Commissar of Defense.

VOROBEV, Chief Marshal of Engineer Troops: Chief of Engineer Troops of the Red Army, Deputy Commissar of Defense.

SHCHERBAKOV, *General Polkovnik* (Lieutenant General, U. S.): Head of the Main Political Administration of the Red Army, Deputy Commissar of Defense, Member of the *Politburo* of the Central Committee of the Communist Party, Secretary of the Moscow Committee of the Communist Party.

3. SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

Elements of the General Headquarters frequently are detached to supervise the conduct of major field operations. A member of the General Headquarters may assume command of an army group (front), as when Zhukov was made Commander of the First White Russian (Belorussian) Front for the concluding phases of the assault on Germany while still chief of the General Headquarters.

Several of the members of the General Headquarters have been appointed as coordinators of the joint operations of two or more army groups (fronts). Notable among these was Timoshenko, who supervised the advance of the Second and Third Ukrainian Fronts in the last months of the war. Groups of officers of the General Headquarters have, on occasion, even been detailed to supervise joint operations of two or more fronts in the field. Thus, they become an advance echelon of the General Headquarters, itself.

The purpose of this detached service is the supervision of operations in order not only to assure execution of the plans of the Headquarters, but also to assure rapid, continuous, and objective reporting of the progress of campaigns.

Another important factor is the authority over the Commissariats of Internal Affairs (NKVD) and State Security (NKGB) that is granted the general Headquarters. Although these units are not constitutionally subordinate, the GHQ may issue direct orders to them in special cases which require immediate action and are closely related to the conduct of operations. Neither commissariat is represented in the General Headquarters.

Section III. CHIEF OF STAFF AND THE GENERAL STAFF OF THE RED ARMY

1. THE CHIEF OF STAFF

In issuing the commands and directives of the General Headquarters to units of the army in the field,

the Chief of the General Staff of the Red Army is chief executive officer for the Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces.

The Chief of Staff is the command link between the General Headquarters and the Red Army in the zone of operations. The Chief of Staff also commands all divisions of the General Staff and is responsible for the preparation of operational plans by the staff and for reconnaissance operations ordered by the staff.

A special responsibility of the Chief of the General Staff, of particular importance in time of peace, is the publication of the "Journal of Military Thought." This publication, probably the most influential of all Soviet military journals, is directed to present analyses of problems of military theory and ideology, of basic problems of organization of the armed forces, of strategy, and of operating techniques. It also is directed to cover the analyses and discussion of coordination of arms, of the training of commanders for all arms, and of practical combat lessons. It also is to include extensive critiques of the accomplishments of the armed forces of other nations.

The Chief of the General Staff also is responsible for supervision of policy of the two highest military academies, the Frunze Academy (Command and General Staff School) and the Academy of the General Staff (War College).

2. THE GENERAL STAFF

a. Position. The General Staff of the Red Army is the highest advisory body to the Chief of Staff of the Red Army, to the Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces, and to his personal staff, the General Headquarters. Subordinated operationally only to the General Headquarters in time of war, it remains subordinate to the Commissariat of Defense for its own internal administration. Although the interests of the General Staff are primarily operational, it also exerts considerable influence upon the administration of the Red Army.

b. Functions. The General Staff, in cooperation with the staffs of the arms and rear services, is responsible for the preparation in detail of all operational plans for the Red Army. It also is specifically charged with ensuring effective coordination between arms and services at all levels.

In common with the staffs of lower headquarters, the General Staff maintains operations, intelligence, signal, and topographical divisions. It also maintains three divisions which are peculiar to the Gen-

eral Staff. They are the Formations Division, which corresponds to the statistical control sections of lower staffs, but which appears to have much broader functions than the later in problems of organizational policy; the Fortified Areas Division; and the Historical Division, which is charged with the preparation of critiques of operations and of recommendations based upon them.

c. Organization. The General Staff is organized into divisions as follows:

The *First (Operations) Division* of the General Staff includes representatives of all the combat arms and the rear services. It is charged with the final preparation of operational plans for submission to the General Headquarters. The Operations Division is responsible for the initial deployment of field forces in any area which is expected to become a zone of operations.

The Operations Division also is charged with the immediate command of field units not subordinated to army groups or other field headquarters, i. e., GHQ units, certain units in transit from their military districts to the combat zone, and a pool of officers with General Staff qualifications.

As the need arises, the Operations Division is divided geographically into sections for each theater of operations or areas for which General Staff plans are being prepared. Toward the close of World War II, there were at least five sections. These were designated "North," "Center," "South," "Far East," and "Partisans." There also are sections representing the artillery, mechanized, air and engineer arms, the rear services, and the personnel administration of officers of the General Staff.

A branch of this division is believed to control the selection and use of ciphers, codes, and cover names, and to be charged with the preparation and execution of deception operations.

The *Second (Intelligence) Division* of the General Staff is the highest agency for the collection, collation, and evaluation of positive information concerning the enemy. Counterintelligence is handled by the Main Administration for Counterintelligence in the Commissariat of Defense (see Part III).

The Intelligence Division also is charged with command responsibility for reconnaissance plans and may prepare direct orders to the arms, services, and field commanders for execution of the plans. Prisoner-of-war and document exploitation is controlled by the Intelligence Division. The employment of secret agents is a joint responsibility of the

Intelligence Division and the Commissariat of State Security (NKGB).

The Intelligence Division also is responsible for the employment of signal intelligence, a responsibility that is shared by the Main Administration for Signal Troops and by the signal security services of the NKVD. The exact delineation of functions and responsibilities among the three agencies is not known.

The Intelligence Division works closely with the Topographic Division on terrain intelligence and with the intelligence branches of the arms on intelligence appropriate to each.

The Intelligence Division is believed to be divided into five branches: information, operations (sabotage, etc.), espionage, cadres (training), and internal administration. The information section consists of at least six subsections: Western, Balkan, German, Far Eastern, Near Eastern, and Publications. The espionage branch includes sections for espionage equipment, for signal intelligence, and for operations in each of the various areas of the world.

The *Third (Signal Communications) Division* of the General Staff is charged with planning the signal facilities required for operations under consideration by the General Staff. Its plans are believed not to extend to the detailed requirements worked out by the Main Administration for Signal Troops of the Commissariat of Defense (see Part III). Nor are the plans believed to cover the close coordination of the Main Administration for Signal Troops of the Commissariat of Defense with the Commissariat of Signal Communications. The General Staff lacks command function in this field.

The *Fourth (Formations) Division* of the General Staff is believed to perform the functions of the statistical control sections of lower staffs and to analyze current and proposed Tables of Organization.

The internal organization is not known, but the division deals with questions concerning the requirements and systems of mobilization and replacement and with the process of selection and appointment of officers.

In this connection, stress must be laid upon the fact that Soviet Tables of Organization, especially for infantry, are modified in accordance with basic changes in the strategic situation.

During the 1942 defensive stage of the war with Germany, infantry formations were provided with additional weapons, especially mortars. Their trans-

portation allocations were reduced radically. With the resumption of offensive operations, the organization of infantry units again was changed. The planning of these changes is believed to have been the function of the Formations Division.

The Formations Division does not, however, administer such changes. The actual administration of the mobilization and replacement processes has been transferred to the Main Administration for Personnel (officers) and to the Main Administration for the Formation and Equipment of Units (enlisted men) of the Commissariat of Defense.

The *Topographic Division* of the General Staff is responsible for the study of terrain, defense data, and for the preparation of maps and charts in cooperation with the Intelligence Division. It supervises the topographic and mapping services of the Red Army. It also coordinates the survey work of the artillery, engineer, and air arms. The Topographic Division is charged with the production and supply of all types of maps to the Red Army in the field.

The *Fortified Areas Division* of the General Staff plans the development of fixed defenses for strong-points, strategic bases, cities, frontier passes, and certain larger border areas not under naval command. It also supports the Chief of Staff and the Operations Division in the command control of such areas not under the command of army groups or other lower headquarters.

The *Historical Division* of the General Staff is one of the most important of General Staff divisions. Its organization is not known, but it draws upon the most expert opinion available, including high representatives of each arm and service, and maintains, under its exclusive control, field offices attached to Army Group and Army Headquarters.

The Historical Division transcends the function indicated by its title. Its duties include the accumulation and processing of field reports on strategy, tactics, and the employment of arms, weapons, and equipment. The recommendations of the Historical Division become the chief basis for changes in Red Army operational doctrines, Tables of Organization, equipment, and matériel specifications. Division recommendations also affected the appointment and removal of major field commanders.

Application of the Historical Division's critiques, covering every aspect of strategy, tactics, logistics, etc., emerged during World War II as a definitely established function of the General Staff, in which it achieved its greatest prestige and influence. Its influence in this respect is expected to remain as great in peace as it was during war.

During World War II approved modifications of Red Army practices repeatedly were executed within a few months after the critique and recommendations were prepared. The continuous study and rapid application of combat lessons has been one of the greatest assets of the Red Army.

PART III. COMMISSARIAT OF DEFENSE AND RED ARMY ADMINISTRATION

Section I. COMMISSARIAT OF DEFENSE

1. POSITION

The Peoples' Commissariat of Defense, now renamed the Peoples' Commissariat of the Armed Forces, is a Union-Republican Commissariat, directly subordinate to the State Defense Committee in time of war, and to the Council of Peoples' Commissars in time of peace. (There is little evidence that the "Union-Republican" title is based on fact. Only two republics are known to have organized Commissariats of Defense.)

The Commissariat relies upon the General Headquarters for direction in affairs directly bearing upon the prosecution of war. This is not, however, a command subordination. It is based upon the fact that the Commissar, First Deputy Commissar, and

certain of the other Deputy Commissars hold the majority of positions in the General Headquarters.

In technical and administrative policies, a third agency exerts a large measure of indirect control over the Commissariat during war. The recommendations of the General Staff, based on evaluation of battle experiences, become directives to the Commissariat or its component administrations when approved by the General Headquarters and adjusted to suit the capabilities of the administrations involved.

Other agencies, such as the Supreme Court and Communist Party, also exert direct control over administrations which are charged with functions within the Commissariat.

2. COMPOSITION AND ORGANIZATION

The Commissariat proper consists of the Commissar of Defense (Stalin), the First Deputy Commissar of

Defense (Zhukov), and 10 or more deputy commissars. The majority of the deputy commissars are heads of the arms or of other main administrations of the Red Army. In January 1945, 8 of the 12 members of the Commissariat were members also of the General Headquarters, held not less than the rank of *General Polkovnik* (lieutenant general), and were officers of long standing in the Red Army.

Directly subordinate to the Commissar and Deputy Commissars are the Inspectorate of Infantry and 18 "bureaus" for Red Army affairs. The "bureaus" are called "main administrations" and "administrations." In addition, there are a number of main administrations which are subordinate to the air, artillery, and rear services.

Of the 18 main administrations and administrations, 1 administration is concerned with the internal affairs of the Commissariat itself; 9 main administrations control Red Army arms and technical services; 4 main administrations supervise personnel, conscription, and training; 3 main administrations are responsible for political and legal supervision of Red Army personnel; and the Main Administration of the Chief of the Rear Services controls supply, maintenance, evacuation, and transportation.

The heads of administrations generally are known as the chiefs of their respective arms or services. For example, the head of the Main Administration of Signal Troops is known as the Chief Marshal of Signal Troops of the Red Army.

3. FUNCTIONS

The deputy commissars are charged with the promulgation of basic regulations and administrative policies for the Red Army. As heads of administrations, they are responsible for the coordination of the activities of their administration with the other administrations, particularly with those for training and political supervision. They also are charged with the close liaison which each administration must maintain with its corresponding commissariat of the civil economy and with the General Staff (fig. 6).

The academies and schools which prepare officers for duty in each arm or service are important responsibilities of the chief of the respective administration. In addition, the publications of the arms

and services, which carry the power of directives, are particularly important responsibilities of the chiefs.

It will be noted that there is no main administration for the infantry arm. Responsibility for this arm belongs to the Commissariat as a whole. The infantry arm is supervised only by the Inspector of Infantry, who is a deputy commissar. The Red Army considers the infantry a basic arm and the direct responsibility, at all levels, of the commander rather than of a subordinate chief of an arm. All strategy, tactics, and administration of the entire Red Army spring from, or are added to, basic infantry regulations.

The Inspectorate of Infantry, although not an administrative agency, performs important functions. They are illustrated by the specific subject matter of the "Military Bulletin," published by the Inspector. The mission of the Bulletin is to present "analyses, from current war experience, of the theory and practice of combat; analyses of combat training, especially in the fields of tactics and fire control; and discussion and instruction concerning organization, tactics, techniques, and military experience."

The Affairs Administration handles all internal problems of the Commissariat. It is charged particularly with "housekeeping" and personnel duties. Known divisions of the Affairs Administration include the following:

Inventions Division. Guides research and coordinates the needs of the arms and their inspection of new equipment.

Regulation Division. Prepares regulations applicable to the entire Red Army.

Foreign Liaison Division. Provides liaison with representatives of other nations conducting business with the Commissariat.

Finance Division. Administers the finances of the Commissariat and of the personnel of its administrations.

Economics Division. Administers the internal "housekeeping" affairs of the Commissariat and administrations.

Publications Division. Prints and distributes all publications of the Commissariat and administrations.

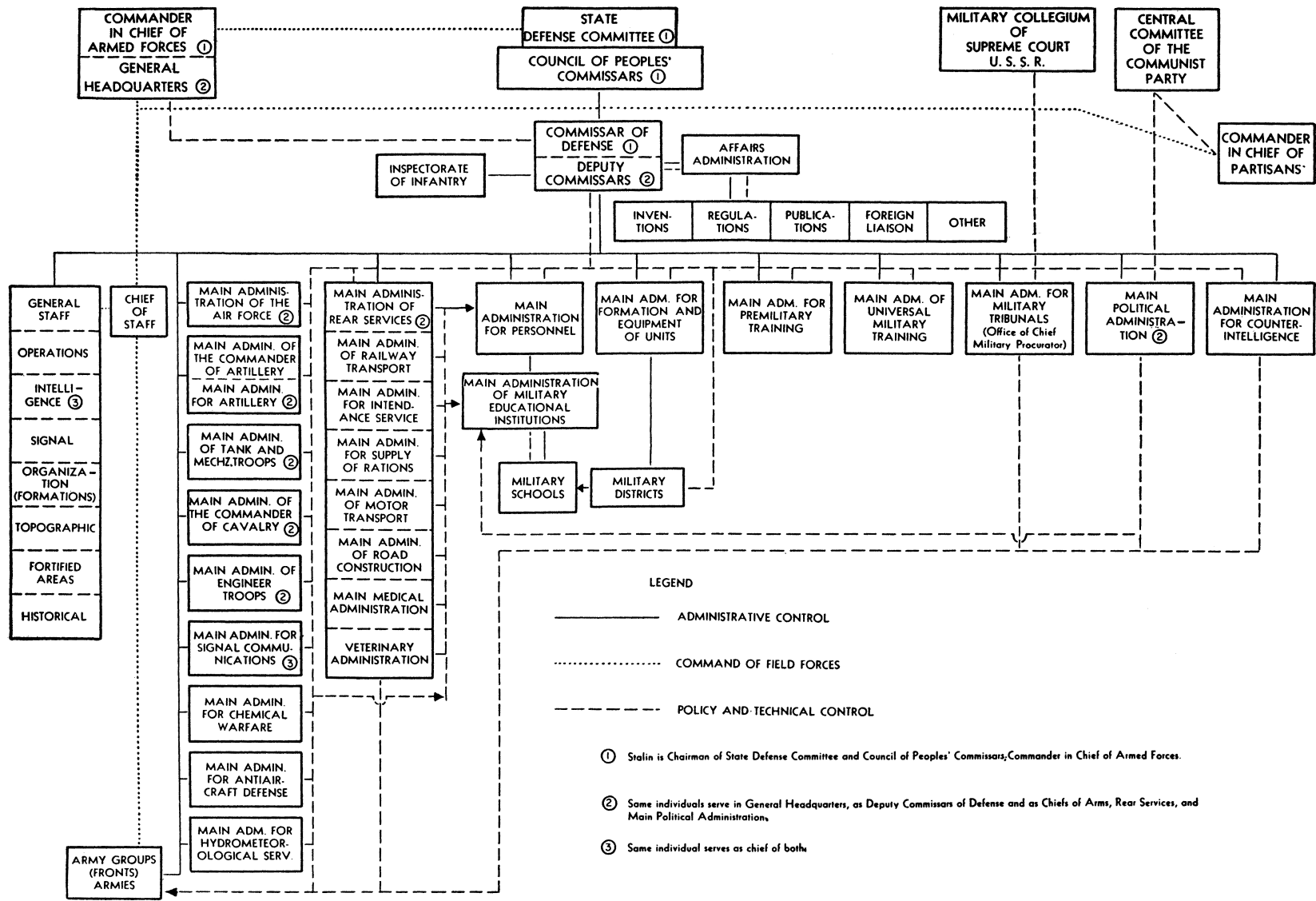


Figure 6. Command and administration of the Red Army.

Section II. MAIN ADMINISTRATIONS OF ARMS AND TECHNICAL SERVICES

1. GENERAL

The main administrations of the nine arms and technical services are organized, under their chiefs, into staff sections and administrations which vary in number according to need.

The staff sections of each main administration form the staff of its respective Chief as commander of the arm or service.

The chiefs of the artillery, air, tank and mechanized, engineer, and cavalry arms are also members of the General Headquarters. Occasionally, they have direct control of the operation or deployment of units of their arm in the field. The staffs also assist the chiefs in these latter capacities.

The staff sections appear to correspond to those of the General Staff and work in close cooperation with them. In most cases, the staffs include sections for operations, intelligence, signal, communications, and statistical control organization.

There are at least three administrations (in some cases, main administrations) within each of the main administrations of the arms and technical services. They administer the supply, combat training, and personnel affairs of their respective arms.

Another element of a main administration is believed to be its Military Council, consisting of the chief (Commander), the chief of staff or head of the operations section, the head of the supply administration, and a political representative who is responsible to the Main Political Administration. The Military Council is a directive body with somewhat wider powers than are vested in the chief of the arm or service, alone.

2. ARTILLERY

a. General. Of all the specialized branches of the Red Army, none has been more highly developed nor has been surrounded with a greater tradition of emphasis and prestige than the artillery arm.

The functions of the artillery arm embrace, in addition to those found in the other armies of the world, responsibility for the development and supply of all weapons and ammunition for every arm. Of necessity, they also include direction of training in the use and maintenance of everything that shoots, the preparation of pertinent technical and training manuals and materials, and a large share of the planning phase of all major operations. It is not

unusual to find an artillery officer, usually the Chief of Artillery of an appropriate staff echelon, placed in over-all command of all troops for an operation in which artillery is the major arm employed.

The great weight of responsibility falling to the Commissariat of Defense concerned with artillery affairs and the complexity of administration involved are such that two main administrations have been formed to handle the arm. One of them is concerned with staff structure and the other with administrative structure.

The two administrations perform the following functions:

- Coordination with the air forces of the development of fire plans for major operations.

- Technical control and direction of the tactical employment, training of personnel, and supply activities associated with artillery, mortars, and rockets, with the exception of self-propelled artillery.

- Coordination with appropriate Commissariats of the development and supply of all weapons, including infantry and aircraft armament, and of all ammunition. Special engineer and chemical weapons and explosives, and aircraft bombs do not fall within this jurisdiction.

- All development and dissemination of survey and meteorological data for artillery and cooperating arms. These functions are carried on in conjunction with the Topographic Division of the General Staff, the Meteorological Administration of the Main Administration of the Air Forces, and the Main Administration for the Hydro-Meteorological Services.

- Planning of artillery observation aircraft operations in conjunction with the air forces.

b. Commander of artillery. The Chief Marshal of Artillery, ranking artillery officer of the Red Army, is head of the Main Administration of the Commander of Artillery, and probably is assisted by a Military Council. The office is separated both in command and in functions from the Main Administration of Artillery Troops.

The Chief Marshal of Artillery, or "Commander of Artillery," is assisted by deputies for antiaircraft artillery, rockets, and probably for artillery observation aircraft. He is provided with a staff, including the usual branches for operations, intelligence, etc. The artillery Commander is charged with full responsibility for the artillery academies, for the influential

“Artillery Journal,” and for all institutions for research and development of the artillery arm.

c. Artillery troops. Most of the routine activities of the administration of the arm are delegated to the Main Administration of Artillery Troops. Organization is believed to include the following:

- Office of the Chief of Artillery Supply.
- Personnel Administration (officers).
- Combat Training Administration (enlisted men).
- Special Administrations:
 - Field Artillery Administration.
 - Tank Destroyer Artillery Administration.
 - Antiaircraft Artillery Administration.
 - Mortar Administration.
 - Rocket Administration.
 - Artillery Topographic Service Administration.

3. AIR FORCES

The Commander of the Air Forces of the Red Army is assisted by a Military Council and deputies for engineers, navigation, aerial gunnery, political affairs, and probably others, including airborne troops. The Main Administration of the Air Forces, under his command, is responsible for:

- Development of fire plans in conjunction with the staff of the Chief of Artillery.
- Control over all the Red Army Air Forces.
- All aircraft development and supply matters, in cooperation with appropriate economic commissariats.
- All artillery spotting units and operations, including photo-reconnaissance, photo-interpretation, and topography, in conjunction with the staff of the Chief of Artillery.
- Publication of the “Air Force Journal.”
- Direction and administration of the air academies.
- All air transport and evacuation, especially of the wounded, in cooperation with the Chief of the Rear Services. This includes operational control over the Civil Air Fleet.
- The training and operations of airborne troops, in conjunction with the Inspector of Infantry.

These responsibilities are divided among staff sections, inspectorates, main administrations, and administrations of which the following are known:

- The Air Staff:
 - Operations Section.
 - Intelligence Section.

- Ciphers Section.
- Statistical Control (organization) Section.
- Air Transport Section.
- Meteorological Section:

General Inspectorate:

- Inspector of Fighters.
- Inspector of Ground-Attack Aircraft.
- Inspector of Bombers.
- Inspector of *Sturman* (Navigation, etc.)
- Inspector of Technical Affairs.
- Miscellaneous others.

Administrations:

- Main Administration of Airborne Troops (probable).
- Main Administration of the Civil Air Fleet.
- Main Administration of Rear Services and Supply.
- Main Administration of Engineer Services.
- Main Administration for Formation and Training of Units.
- Personnel Administration (officers).
- Sturman* (navigation, etc.) Administration.
- Aerial Gunnery Service Administration.
- Administration of Signal Services.
- Administration of Medical Services (subordinate to the Main Administration of Medical Services under the Chief of the Rear Services).
- Internal Affairs Administration.
- Administration of Air Academies.

(For further details, see Chapter XI.)

4. TANK AND MECHANIZED TROOPS

The Main Administration of Tank and Mechanized Troops is charged with control over the tank, self-propelled artillery, and motorized infantry forces of the Red Army; with the development and supply of tanks and armored equipment, in cooperation with the appropriate commissariat; and with coordination of the employment and supply of motor transport for motorized troops, in cooperation with the Chief of the Rear Services. It also is responsible for the publication of the periodical, “Journal of Tank and Mechanized Troops,” and for the academy of the arm.

Little is known of the internal structure of this administration. However, it does include the following:

- Office of the Chief.
- Technical Deputy to the Chief (Mechanical Engineer).

Military Council.
Staff (probable).

Administrations:

Tanks.

Self-propelled artillery.

Motorized infantry.

Supply.

Mechanical engineering.

Personnel (officers).

Training (enlisted men).

5. CAVALRY

The Main Administration of Cavalry is concerned with horse cavalry only. It works in close conjunction with the Inspector of Infantry. The periodical of the latter is its only published organ. Organization of the Main Administration of Cavalry is believed to be comparable to that of other arms.

6. ENGINEERS

Only a few subdivisions of the Main Administration of Engineers are known. These include the administrations for combat engineers, ponton engineers, construction engineers, geological services, and construction of fortifications. Staff sections and administrations probably are similar to those of the other arms, but fewer in number.

This administration controls the Engineer Academy and publishes the "Military Engineer Journal." It performs, as do the others, all the training, supply, and development functions peculiar to the arm, including the following:

Planning of engineer support for major operations, including sieges and river crossings in particular.

Training of engineers.

Supply (mines and demolition, construction and fortifications equipment).

Ponton and bridge construction and supply.

Geological surveys in conjunction with the Topographic Division of the General Staff and the topographic service of the artillery arm.

7. SIGNAL TROOPS

The Main Administration of Signal troops is charged with all phases of the radio, telephone, telegraph, and postal services of the Red Army. It closely coordinates with the same services of the Commissariat of Signal Communications.

Research and development are charged to the Commissariat. The Administration is largely an operating agency for the sustaining of communica-

tions between the General Headquarters and the field forces, and in the zone of operations. In the zone of the interior, all such responsibility is vested in the Commissariat alone.

The Chief Marshal of Signal Troops also is, at the present time, Chief of the Signal Division of the General Staff. He formerly was concurrently Peoples' Commissar of Signal Communications.

The exact channels for coordination of the operations controlled by this administration with those of the Navy and of the Commissariat of Internal Affairs (NKVD), including the signal security operations of the latter, are not known.

Internal organization is little known, but five administrations have been identified. They include telephone and telegraph, radio, postal services, engineers, and signal supply. A small staff and other administrations are presumed to exist.

8. HYDRO-METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES

The Main Administration of Hydro-Meteorological Services was formerly a civil organization directly subordinate to the Council of Peoples' Commissars. During war, this service and the meteorological services of the Navy and of the Red Army have been coordinated under the control of the Main Administration of Hydro-Meteorological Services. It is possible that the civil service may revert to its former status.

The Main Administration is charged with all aspects of procurement and dissemination of meteorological data to military and other agencies. It is organized basically into a Main Administration and an Administration. The Main Administration coordinates all the services involved with the demands of the agencies served, trains all personnel of the services, controls the manufacture of equipment through appropriate Commissariats, and controls the distribution of equipment to military units and to civil units in the military districts. An administration supervises the activities of stations in the military districts.

Internal organization is as follows:

Main Administration.

Chief of the Service.

Military Council (probable).

Staff.

Deputy for Air Forces.

Deputy for the Navy.

Deputy for the Ground Forces.

Artillery Section.

Chemical Section.
 Hydrological Section.
 Deputy for Civil Commissariats (probable).
 Central Forecasting, Hydrological, and other Institutes.
 Central Aerological and other observatories.
 Publications Section (periodicals).
 Central Bureau of Standards.
 Personnel Administration.
 Supply Administration.
 Administration of Regional Services and Sections.
 Supervises and administers stations under the controls of the military districts.

9. ANTI-AIRCRAFT DEFENSE FORCES

Little is known about the internal structure of the Main Administration of Antiaircraft Defense Forces (GUPVO). (For the position, functions, and components of the Air Defense Force, see Part I.)

The following agencies are believed to exist in the GUPVO:

Office of the Chief.
 Military Council.
 Staff Sections.
 Deputies for:
 Antiaircraft Artillery.
 Fighter Forces.
 VNOS (early warning service).
 NKVD (passive and incendiary defenses under control of the Commissariat of Internal Affairs, [NKVD]).
 Chemical Warfare Services.
 Administrations for:
 Personnel.
 Combat Training.
 Supply (special supply and coordination of supply from other arms).
 Publications:
 "Chemistry and Defense."
 "Antiaircraft Defense Bulletin."
 Administration for coordination of Air Defense Force Headquarters in the military districts.

10. CHEMICAL WARFARE TROOPS

Very little is known about the Main Administration of Chemical Warfare Troops. The activities of the service were neither extensive nor worthy of particular note during World War II. Only in the

employment of smoke did the troops of the Chemical Warfare Service perform an important part in operations.

Section III. REAR SERVICES

1. CHIEF OF REAR SERVICES

For the functions of the Chiefs of the Rear Services and their specialized divisions at all echelons in the Red Army, see Chapter VII, Logistics. At commissariat level, these supply and service functions are assigned to the main administrations and the administrations under command of the Chief of the Rear Services.

The Chief of the Rear Services, with the rank of General of the Army, is a Deputy Commissar of Defense. He has a personal staff in addition to the specialized administrations under his control. The staff assists in the coordination of the various supply services and their administrations. It also handles broad problems of supply and assists the Chief of the Rear Services with his duties as a member of the General Headquarters.

2. ADMINISTRATIONS OF REAR SERVICES

The Chief of the Rear Services and the main administrations and administrations under his control are charged with all phases of Red Army logistics, except those specifically allotted to the arms and technical services.

The Main Administrations and Administrations under his control are as follows:

Central Administration of Army Transportation (rail).
 Main Administration of Motor Transport.
 Main Administration of Roads (construction and maintenance).
 Main Administration of Intendance (clothing, etc.).
 Main Administration of Subsistence (rations).
 Main Administration of the Medical Service.
 Administration of the Veterinary Service.
 Administration of Motor Fuel and Lubricant Supply.
 Administration of Finance.
 Administration of Personnel Losses of Non-commissioned Officers and Enlisted Men and for Relief of their Families.
 Office for publication of the journal, "Rear Area and Supply of the Red Army."

(For further information, see Chapter VII.)

Section IV. POLITICAL, PENAL, AND COUNTERINTELLIGENCE SUPERVISION

1. GENERAL

Three main administrations, constitutionally subordinate to the Peoples' Commissariat of Defense, are concerned with supervision of the loyalty and legal discipline of the Red Army. They are the Main Administration of Counterintelligence, the Main Administration of Military Tribunals, and the Main Political Administration. The basic lines of policy of all three of these administrations are prescribed, not by the Commissariat, but by other agencies of the state.

2. COUNTERINTELLIGENCE

In the establishment of the Main Administration of Counterintelligence, the Red Army is made responsible for the loyalty of all its personnel; for the security of the zone of operations, exclusive of rear areas, against penetration by enemy agents; and for the required personnel and organization.

Close cooperation with the Commissariats of Internal Affairs (NKVD) and State Security (NKGB) is mandatory, but the Administration is not operationally subordinate to either.

Agencies subject to the control of this Administration exist at all echelons of command in the field army, down to and including companies.

3. MAIN POLITICAL ADMINISTRATION

The Main Political Administration of the Red Army, subordinate to the Commissariat, is the chief agency of the Communist Party for control of the Red Army. It occupies a position of great power and influence. The Administration is best considered as the military branch of the Central Committee of the Communist Party, from which it receives its basic directives.

Headed by a senior member of the Central Committee, it issues directives covering all political activities in the combat zone and within the Army structure in all areas. Perhaps the most important function of the Administration is its supervisory control over all Party members in the Red Army and its reporting of their activities.

The Main Political Administration is charged with strengthening the Party and *Komsomol* (Communist Youth or pre-Party) organizations in the Red Army, with psychological warfare and propaganda conducted by the army in the field, and with political indoctrination of Red Army troops, partisans,

and the civil population of occupied areas. It also is responsible for a number of educational institutions, including the Lenin Political War Academy and the Engels Military-Political School.

The training of political assistants to commanders, members of the Military Councils, at all echelons and of political commissars (when the political commissar system is operative) is the exclusive responsibility of the Administration.

The Main Political Administration is organized into a number of component administrations. Chief among these are those for organization and training, political propaganda, information, *Komsomol*, and Party members.

4. MILITARY TRIBUNALS

The activities of military tribunals at all echelons down to divisions, excluding only corps, are supervised, coordinated, and administered by the Main Administration of Military Tribunals. The head of this administration is a Chief Procurator of the U. S. S. R., titled the Chief Procurator of Military Tribunals. All procurators (attorney-generals) of subordinate military tribunals are appointed by the Chief Procurator, with the advice and approval of the Commissariat of Defense.

The Chief Procurator is responsible to the Military Collegium of the Supreme Soviet for the application of Soviet law to military affairs and personnel. The members of the Collegium are appointed by the Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet.

The jurisdiction of the Military Tribunals extends only to offenses against the laws of the Soviet Union as interpreted or applied to military affairs. Military regulations and discipline which do not stem from the civil law and which apply only to Red Army personnel, are not within the sphere of the tribunals or of the Main Administration of Military Tribunals.

Section V. ADMINISTRATIONS FOR PERSONNEL AND TRAINING

1. GENERAL

The administration of personnel affairs, conscription, training centers, schools and academies, the selection of officers and noncommissioned officers, and the administration of organizations for the military training of civilians is shared by a large number of agencies at commissariat level. (For further details of this system, see Chapter II.)

However, four main administrations (with a fifth subordinated to one of the four) are especially charged with closely related responsibilities in this field. They are the Main Administration of Personnel and its subordinate, the Main Administration of Military Educational Institutions; the Main Administration for the Formation and Equipment of Units; the Main Administration for Universal Compulsory Military Training; and the Main Administration for Pre-Military Training. These administrations are directly responsible for all but the purely technical aspects of the activities of the military districts. The latter are controlled by the arms and services.

2. PERSONNEL

The Main Administration of Personnel is concerned exclusively with officer personnel. It is charged with the maintenance of complete records on all officers in the Red Army, including their assignments, military occupational specialties, schooling, and qualifications. It assigns and promotes all officers up to and including the grade of lieutenant colonel, except where such authority is partially delegated to the army group (front) Commander.

The Main Administration of Personnel also is responsible for the activities of the Main Administration for Military Educational Institutions, because the latter is concerned primarily with officer replacements.

3. MILITARY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

The Main Administration for Military Educational Institutions (GUVUZ), already mentioned as being subordinate to the Main Administration of Personnel, is charged with over-all responsibility for all schools of the Red Army. Technical aspects of training in the arms are the responsibility of the appropriate main administrations. Administrative problems are handled by the military districts in which the institutions are located.

Rates and standards for matriculation and graduation of officers are set by the Main Administration of Personnel on the basis of directives from the General Headquarters, or, for minor adjustments, from the Commissariat.

4. FORMATION AND EQUIPMENT OF UNITS

The Main Administration for the Formation and Equipment of Units (GUFUV) is concerned primarily with the formation of units and formations from available personnel or by conscription in ac-

cordance with the directives of the Commissariat.

Tables of Organization and Equipment, worked out by the Formations Division of the General Staff and approved by the General Headquarters and the Commissariat (and the appropriate main administration if a unit of an arm is involved), are the basic directives for the GUFUV. Directives concerning the rate of formation are developed by this Main Administration in conjunction with the Chief Administration for Military Educational Institutions, which supplies officer personnel.

In addition to the processes of mobilization and expansion of the Red Army, GUFUV is charged with the recruiting and equipping of trained replacements for field units. Both the formation and replacement processes are handled locally by the military districts, under the direct supervision of the Main Administration for the Formation and Equipment of Units.

5. UNIVERSAL COMPULSORY MILITARY TRAINING

The Main Administration for Universal Compulsory Military Training of the Citizens of the U. S. S. R. (Vsevobuch) is charged with enforcement of the State Defense Committee decree requiring military training for the duration of World War II for all citizens between the ages of 16 and 50.

The decree applies to all persons not members of the armed forces. All civil organizations, such as factories, cultural societies, and agricultural communities, are instruments for the application of the decree.

This organization may have been dissolved at the end of World War II.

6. PRE-MILITARY TRAINING

The Main Administration for Pre-Military Training (literally, "for the Military Training of School Children") was organized during World War II to administer a program of universal physical and military training through the primary and secondary schools for children in the first 10 grades (7 to 16 years of age).

Although the proportion of military training has been reduced since the end of the war, all school children of both sexes receive as much military training as is commensurate with their individual capabilities. Recruits with this training are prepared to continue full-scale army training immediately after induction.