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Cover illustration: In the sub-arctic climate of the Leningrad front, Soviet naval infantry often adopted items of Army uniform. This is a Baltic Fleet patrol, November 1942.



A black and white photograph of a soldier in a trench during World War II. The soldier is wearing a helmet and is positioned in the lower-left foreground, looking towards the right. A rifle is mounted on a tripod in the trench. The background shows a hilly, open landscape under a bright sky.

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Introduction

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In the Soviet Union, the Second World War is popularly called the Great Patriotic War, and this term refers to the fighting that took place from the German invasion in June 1941 through to the final victory over the German Army in the spring of 1945. Nevertheless, the Soviet Army had been involved in warfare for several years before the German invasion: there had been sporadic fighting in the Far East against Japan since the early 1930s, culminating in the major outbreaks at Lake Khasan in 1938 and at Khalkin Gol in 1939; and in the west, the USSR joined with Germany on 17 September 1939 and invaded Poland. However, the Soviet Army saw little fighting against the Poles, and it was the invasion of Finland later in 1939 that became its first real contest. The fiasco in Finland underlined the severe problems of the Red Army, brought about in no small measure by the Army purges of 1938 which had gutted its leadership. The Red Army also annexed the three Baltic states (Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania) in 1940 and seized Bessarabia from Romania.

In spite of attempts at reform in 1940-41 as a result of the Finnish experience, the Red Army was soundly defeated in 1941, losing several million troops. But the German Army had bitten off more than it could chew, and after four brutal years of fighting the Soviet Union finally emerged victorious. It was a narrow victory, and the country was pushed to the very limits of its human and industrial resources: for example, the Red Army was so pressed for troops that, by the end of the war, nearly one-tenth of its strength was made up of women – the only nation to use a sizeable number of female combat troops. Likewise, it will be noted throughout the following pages that the Red Army, lacking sufficient uniforms, frequently equipped its troops with civilian garb. A number of distinct uniform regulations were passed during the course of the war, but shortages meant that these could not always be observed, and some of the wide variations in dress can be seen in the photographs.

The illustrations in this book come from the wartime Tass and Novosti bureaux in the Sovfoto archives in New York, from the Office of War Information files at the National Archives, and from other Russian and private collections. The author would especially like to thank Vika Edwards of the Sovfoto bureau for her patient help.

Steven Zaloga



1. (Title spread) A Soviet trench line during the River Don fighting in 1943. In the foreground is a PTRD anti-tank rifle.
2. Soviet troops on chemical exercises in 1936.



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3. Until 1936, the Red Army still used the old-French Adrian helmet left over from the 1917–20 Civil War. Here, a cavalry patrol on exercise in the Moscow Military District (MD) stops at a peasant well, September 1936. (Sovfoto)

4. Cadets at one of the Junior Military Academies wearing cloth peaked caps – headdress peculiar to these prewar schools.

5. Troops of the Far Eastern Army examine captured Japanese equipment following the Lake Khasan battle in November 1938. The soldier to the right wears the Model 1936 helmet, while the man in the centre wears the *pilotka* side cap. (Sovfoto)

6. A Soviet and a Mongolian soldier shake hands after the conclusion of the Khalkin Gol battle against the Japanese in 1939. The Soviet soldier on the right wears the Model 1936 helmet.

7. Soviet signal troops on exercise in the Kiev MD in January 1939. These troops are wearing the *shelm* headgear, developed during the Civil War and replaced by a fur cap in 1940. (Sovfoto)



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8. Soviet troops inspect an inventory of small arms taken from defeated Polish troops in September 1939.

9. Soviet cavalry troops enter Wilno, Poland, September 1939.

10. A horse-drawn Soviet artillery unit enters Poland in 1939. In the background, a BA-10 armoured car tries to pass the mounted troops. The cavalry troops are wearing Model 1936 helmets.

11. A cavalry patrol along the southern Soviet border in June 1940. The troops are wearing the Model 1938 sun hat which was issued for use in the arid regions of southern and south-eastern Asia. (Sovfoto)



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12. Soviet troops transport a Maxim machine gun on skis. When the Soviet Army entered Finland in November 1940, it was poorly equipped to fight in winter conditions, and paid a heavy price as a result. (Sovfoto)

13. A Soviet ski trooper with a PPSH sub-machine gun. Some Soviet troops were provided with sheepskin coats in February and March 1940 for the final offensive against the Finns.

14. Soviet infantry wearing the Model 1940 fur cap prepare their skis during the February 1941 exercises in Russia. The lessons of Finland were not forgotten, and the Russians would have a distinct advantage over the Germans in the winter of 1941-42. (Sovfoto)

15. Soviet troops during the 1941 fighting. The two soldiers in the foreground wear the Model 1940 helmet, whilst the third soldier still has the older Model 1936 pattern helmet.

16. A machine gunner with the DP 'record player' machine gun supports an infantry attack. He is wearing the Model 1936 helmet which was common at this time.



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17. The staff of an armoured unit examine a map while their BA-20 armoured car waits in the background. These officers wear the 1940 insignia, and the tanker without the peaked cap is, according to the arm and collar patches, a senior lieutenant.

18. A Soviet motorcyclist scout supports an infantry attack with a 50mm mortar. He is wearing the Model 1940 helmet.

19. A shortage of anti-tank weapons in 1941–42 led to widespread improvisation, especially the use of Molotov cocktails. This photograph also clearly shows the *pilotka* side cap, the most common headgear for Soviet troops during the summer months. (Sovfoto)

20. A Soviet Model 1927 regimental gun in action in the summer of 1941. The old horse-drawn spoked wheel version of this weapon was less common than that fitted with pneumatic tyres.

21. The 45mm Model 1937 anti-tank gun was used by infantry units in the fire-support role; other armies (for example the Wehrmacht) preferred the infantry gun for this purpose.





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22. A 45mm Model 1932 anti-tank gun is towed to the front by horse, September 1941.

23. The Soviet Army still made extensive use of cavalry during the Second World War, retaining three cavalry corps and seven independent cavalry divisions in service in 1941. (Sovfoto)

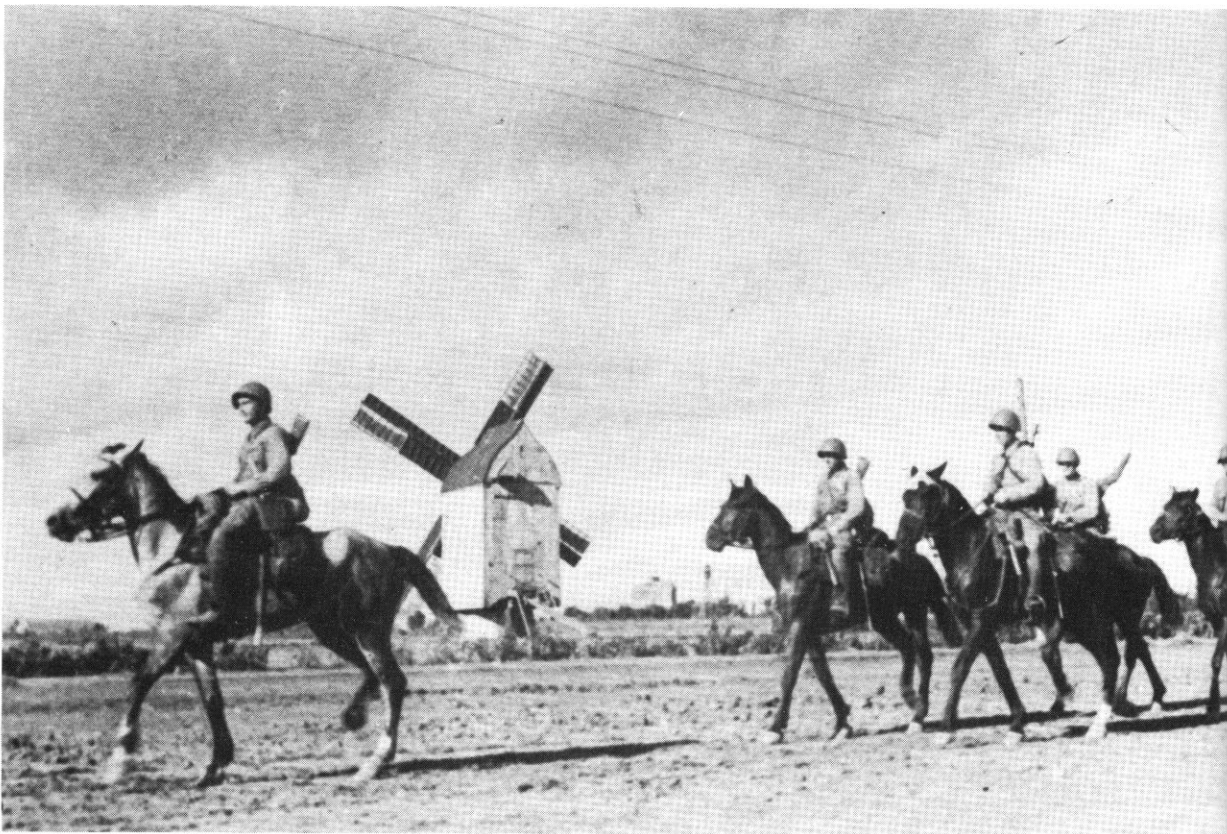
24. Most Soviet heavy artillery was tractor-drawn in 1941. Versions of the Stalinets S-60 tractor (a licensed copy of the US Caterpillar) were common, the example depicted being a ChTZ-65.

25. The staggering losses in troops in the summer of 1941 led to the formation of factory militias like this one from the Kirovski Zavod in Leningrad, famous for its KV tanks.

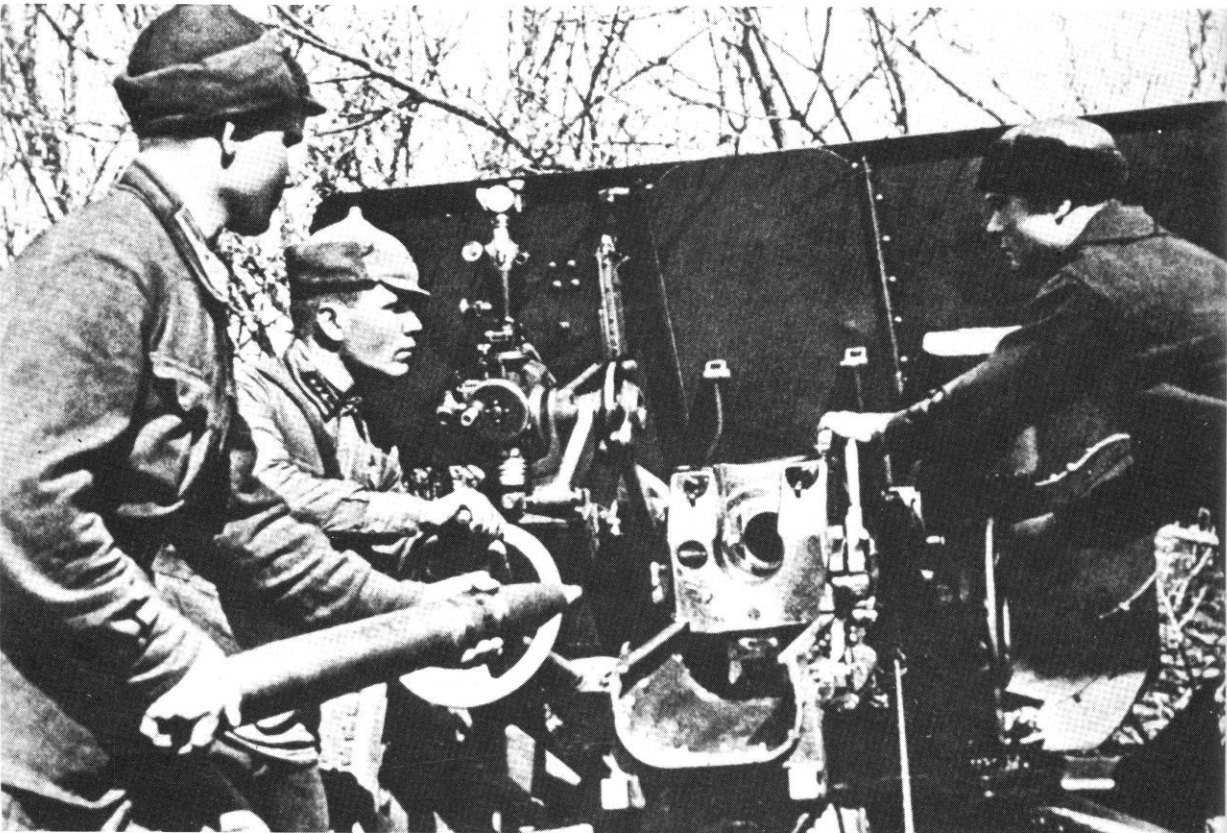


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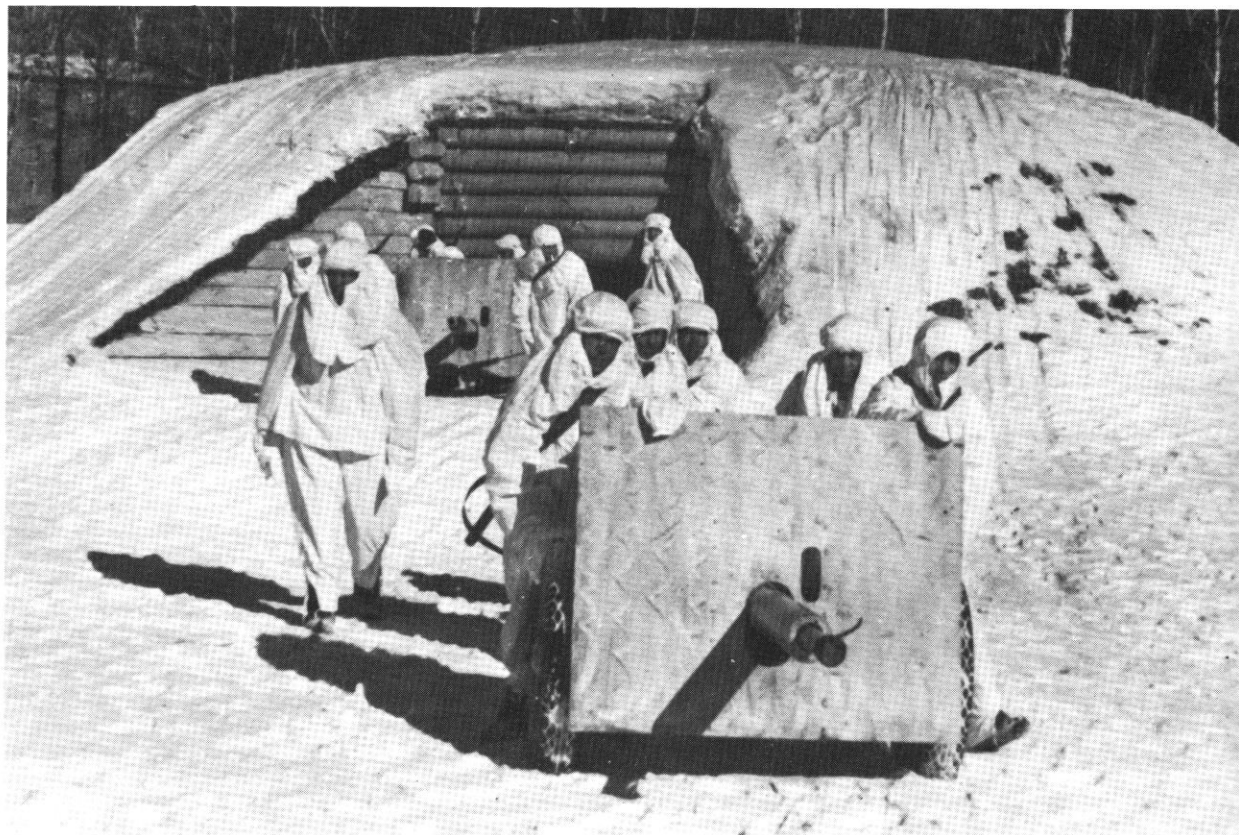
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26. A cavalry patrol in northern Russia, September 1941. Most Soviet cavalry during the war was raised from Cossack regions in the south after attitudes towards the Cossacks were relaxed owing to the desperate need for troops.

27. An artillery crew of the 25th Chapayevskiy Rifle Division manning a 76mm F-22 field gun in 1942. They still wear the *shelm* winter cap.

28. The need for tanks in 1942 was so great that obsolete types like this T-27 tankette had to serve for the basic automotive training of new crews.

29. With the Baltic Fleet sunk or pinned into its harbours by the Kriegsmarine, a considerable force of sailors was freed to assist in the defence of Leningrad; during the war, Soviet sailors were thus far more likely to see combat on land as naval infantry than on board ship. (Sovfoto)



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 30. An anti-tank crew wheels out an improvised 45mm Model 38 anti-tank gun from a hidden bunker on the outskirts of Leningrad in the winter of 1941–42.
 31. The experiences in Finland in 1940 encouraged the Red Army to pay special attention to ski troops, and these were used with

considerable success in the defence of Moscow.

32. A ski troop detachment on patrol. The strange swollen appearance of the headgear of the soldier on the right stems from the fact that the winter camouflage suit hood is being worn over a large fur cap.







33. Flag signalling was still common in the Soviet Army in the early years of the war until the production of radio sets met demand in 1944–45.

34. Soviet infantry support a T-34 Model 1941 tank in the Sevastopol fighting in 1942. The soldier to the left is armed with a bipod-mounted DT tank machine gun, a weapon issued to the infantry in some numbers.

35. An anti-tank position. The soldier in the trench nearest the camera is armed with a Moisin-Nagant rifle fitted with a rifle grenade; in the background is a PTRS anti-tank rifle team.

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36. The most common air defence weapon in 1941–42 was the 4M, a special mounting of four 7.62mm Maxim machine guns. Here, a 4M is manned by Soviet sailors in the defence of Leningrad.



▲ 37 ▼ 38

37. A Don Cossack trooper displays dismounted tactics, using his horse as a shield. Owing to their anti-Bolshevik role in 1917–22, Cossack cavalry units were frowned upon by the Red Army, but in 1941 many were reconstituted and allowed to wear traditional Cossack uniforms.

38. A pair of sixty-year-old Kuban Cossack troopers wearing their traditional black and red uniform; the Terek Cossacks wore similar Caucasian dress.



39. In winter conditions, Soviet infantry squad weapons like the DP machine gun were towed on small sledges which also carried extra ammunition.

40. A battery of Soviet 45mm Model 37 anti-tank guns. In 1942 a new version, the Model 1942, was introduced, but by this time both types were barely adequate against contemporary German tanks.

41. A Soviet nurse tends a wounded soldier from a horse-drawn ambulance.



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42. The only motive power for Soviet medium mortars was human; here, an 82mm PM 41 is being brought into combat by its crew. Mortars were one type of weapon in which Soviet designers excelled.

43. A female nurse bandages one soldier while a sailor with a PPSH Model 1942 and a soldier with a PTRD anti-tank rifle blaze away. In 1942–43 Soviet women saw little combat duty except as nurses or in partisan units, but those with sports training (especially marksmen) were beginning to be assigned to sniper units.

44. A Soviet rifle detachment advances. Soviet infantrymen were notoriously ill-disposed towards wearing helmets, feeling that it was unmanly, and unit commanders often had to impose fines or punishment in order to convince troops of the value of such headgear.

45. A Maxim machine gun position during the fighting in the northern Caucasus, summer 1942. The Red Army usually carried bed rolls rather than knapsacks, rucksacks or other specialized equipment.



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46. An interesting comment on the state of Soviet anti-tank weapons in 1942–43. In the foreground is a PTRD 14.5mm anti-tank rifle team, whilst behind it is a 45mm Model 37 anti-tank gun. Neither weapon was wholly effective against modern German armoured vehicles.

47. A 45mm Model 37 anti-tank gun supports a Soviet infantry attack in the Don region, summer 1942. The 45mm gun was a derivative of the German 37mm anti-tank gun, rebored to permit it to fire larger, high-explosive shells. In this fashion, the weapon could be used for anti-tank and fire support in lieu of the two infantry guns and anti-tank guns that equipped comparable German units.

48. A Soviet infantryman passes the burning wreck of a German PzKpfw IV during the fighting in southern Russia in 1943.



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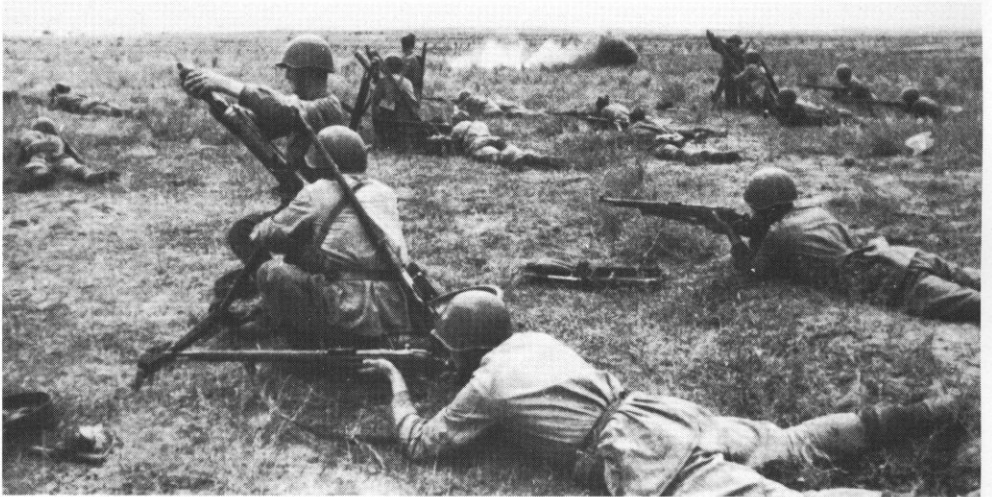
49. Another anti-tank rifle was the PTRS, a complicated weapon compared to the more common PTRD and one that featured a clip-fed magazine instead of the bolt-fed system of the latter.

50. Soviet riflemen offer protection to an 82mm mortar battery during fighting in the Don valley in 1943. The riflemen are equipped with a variety of Moisin-Nagant carbines and rifles.

51. The considerable length of the PTRD is evident in this view of a gun team in the fighting outside Kharkov in 1943. The gunner's assistant is armed with the popular PPSH 'burp gun'. Each infantry regiment was usually equipped with 27 PTRDs.



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52. The crew of a 107mm 107-PBHM Model 1938 sight their weapon during the 1943 fighting in the northern Caucasus. Heavier weapons like this were occasionally camouflage-painted with bands of mid-brown over the standard dark green.

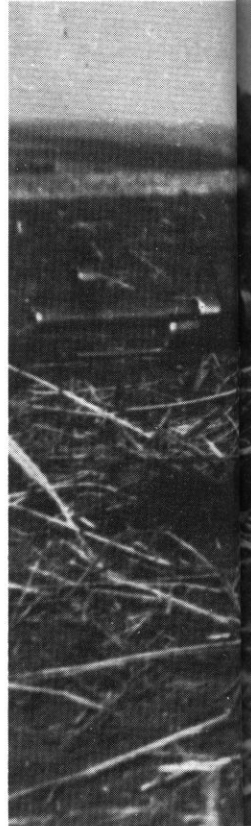
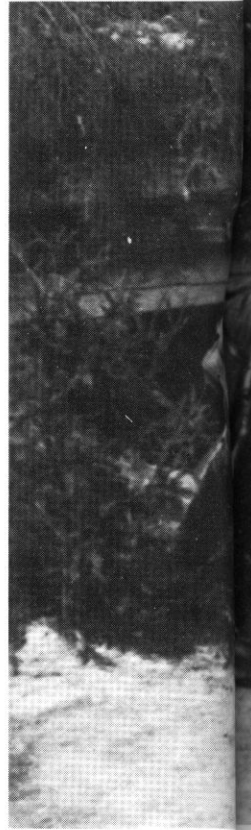
53. The crew of an 85mm Model 1939 anti-aircraft gun man their weapon along the banks of the River Neva in Leningrad. Although this gun was comparable in performance to the German 88mm, it was seldom used in the improvised anti-tank role, the Russians considering it to be too expensive for this purpose.

54. An infantry artillery crew tow their 76mm Model 27/39 regimental gun from a hidden bunker on the outskirts of Leningrad. The modernized Model 27/39 was the most commonly used version of this infantry support gun, and had, amongst other changes, pneumatic tyres in place of the spoked wheels of the basic Model 27.

55. A Soviet sniper with a Moisin-Nagant Model 91/30 and a PU sniper sight provides cover for an infantry attack. An RGD Model 33 grenade rests near his elbow.



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56. A fully prepared infantry anti-tank position. The basic weapon is the PTRS anti-tank rifle, but also ready are some RPG-40 anti-tank grenades, a rifle grenade and some Molotov cocktails.

57. Soviet sailors of the Black Sea Fleet played a prominent role in the fighting on the southern front in 1942–43. They retained their naval uniform, although in this photograph several wear the black fur cap developed for naval infantry from the Army Model 1940 fur cap. (Sovfoto)

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58. The naval infantry of the Northern Fleet were well equipped for the arctic weather, with foul-weather capes for the blustery autumn and spring seasons. The sailor on the left is armed with the relatively rare SVT automatic rifle. (Sovfoto)

59. Soviet infantry in the winter of 1943 wearing the usual winter clothing – Model 1940 fur caps and wool greatcoats. The machine gun crew in the foreground is armed with a DT tank machine gun with a bipod attached. This weapon had a smaller drum magazine that was easier to handle than the ungainly 'record drum' of the DP infantry machine gun, and also a collapsing stock, which made it handier to carry. (Sovfoto).

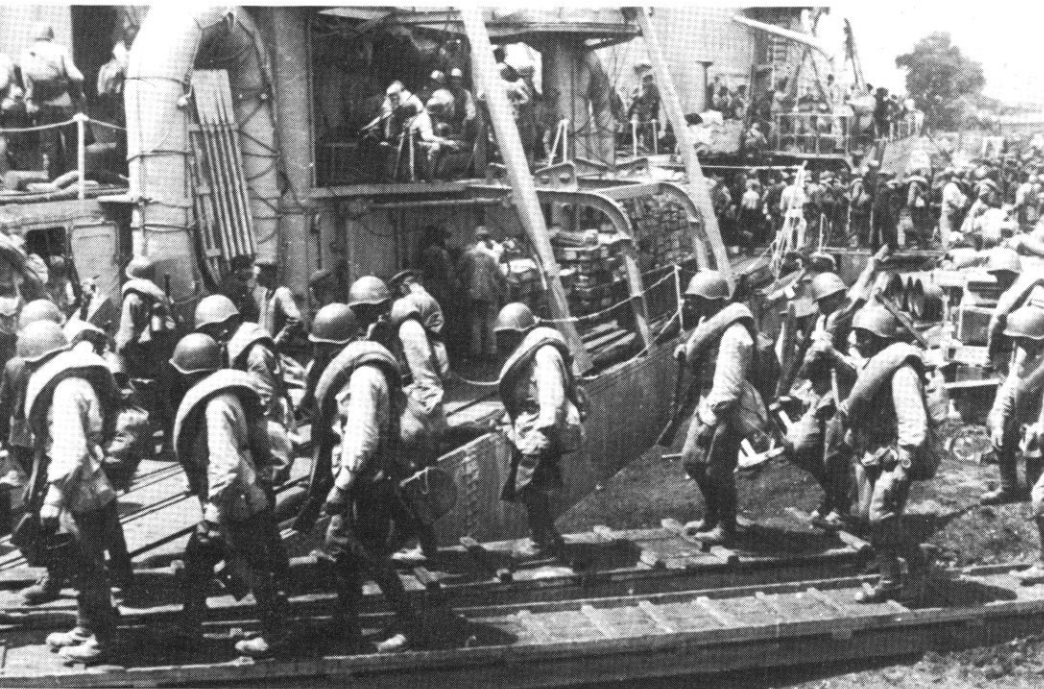
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60. Two of the less common infantry weapons of the Second World War were the SVT40 automatic rifle and the DS Model 1939 light machine gun, both of which are shown here. The cap on the machine gunner is non-standard and is probably a piece of civilian garb put to good use.

61. Soviet infantry embark aboard the Soviet destroyer *Tashkent*. This ship was used for troop landings on the Black Sea coast until July 1942, when it was sunk by air attack at Novorossisk. (Sovfoto)

62. A Terek Cossack unit on patrol in the northern Caucasus in 1942. One of the cavalrymen wears the traditional Caucasian garb, but the others mix this with standard Red Army uniform and riding breeches. (Sovfoto)

63. First invented by the anarchist cavalry leader Makhno in 1918, the *tachanka* became standard equipment in Bolshevik cavalry units to carry the cumbersome Maxim machine gun. These machine gun firing platforms were still in use on the Western Front in June 1942 when this photograph was taken.

64. In a scene reminiscent of the Civil War, a Terek Cossack unit stages a charge for the camera, complete with *shshlik* sabres and *tachankas*. (Sovfoto)

65. A Kuban Cossack cavalry squadron in full traditional dress but with a few modern additions, such as a map case, in evidence. (Sovfoto)



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66. A Bashkirian mounted unit on patrol, May 1943; the distinctive cape of the region is very evident here. The cavalryman on the far right is G. Agadulin, winner of the Order of the Red Star. (Sovfoto)

67. A Soviet infantry squad on the Volkhov Front in April 1943. As

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the war dragged on, more and more Soviet infantry were equipped with the popular PPSH 'burp gun'. These troops are wearing the *telogreika* padded winter jacket. (Sovfoto)



68. Soviet infantry in action south of Lake Ilmen, April 1943. The nearest soldier is armed with an SVT40 automatic rifle. (Sovfoto)

68▲ obliged to improvise, the most common tactic being to carry troops into combat on tanks (the so-called 'tank desant' troops). These men are moving into action on a KV-1 Model 1942 tank.

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70. A patrol of Baltic Fleet sailors armed with an incredible assortment of weapons. At least two have Tokarev automatic rifles like the SVT40, several have a PPSH, one is equipped with a DP machine gun and the nearest figure is armed with a Schmeisser MP40 sub-machine gun captured from the Germans. (Sovfoto)

71. The Black Sea Fleet provided large numbers of troops for the defence of the Kerch peninsula in 1942. These two sailors are armed with Moisin-Nagant rifles. (Sovfoto)

72. Although not trained for the role, sailors were often employed in amphibious landings. The photograph shows a Northern Fleet landing patrol in 1942, armed with SVT40 automatic rifles and PPSH sub-machine guns. (Sovfoto)

73. A 76mm F-22 USV divisional gun in operation in Stalingrad in November 1942. This weapon was a development of the basic F-22 and was succeeded by the ZiS-3 gun in 1942.





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74. An important ancillary force of the Red Army was the Soviet partisans. Here, peasants behind German lines are instructed in the use of Maxim machine guns.

75. During the fighting in the Kursk bulge in the summer of 1943,

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heavy Soviet defensive lines wore down the German tank attack. This position is armed with both the PTRD and the PTRS anti-tank rifle, which by this time were only effective at very close range owing to the increased thicknesses of German tank armour.



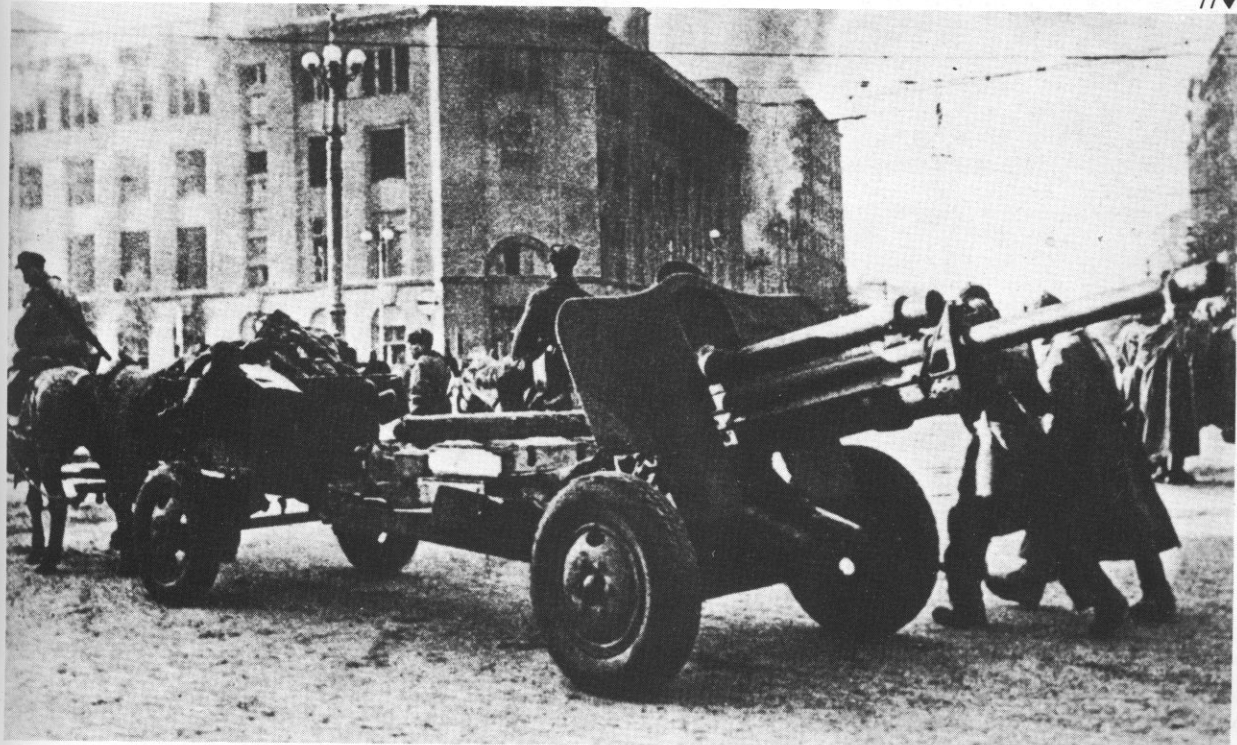


76. The standard Soviet heavy field gun of the war was the ML-20 152mm Model 1937; the self-propelled versions were the SU-152 and ISU-152. This battery is in action outside Zytomierz in 1944.

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77. A 76mm F-22 USV during the liberation of Kiev. The German Army was very impressed with this lightweight but potent gun, and many examples captured in 1941 were put to good use.

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78. During Operation 'Bagration' in the summer of 1944, when the German Army Group 'Centre' was destroyed, Byelorussian partisans like these played a crucial role in disrupting German supply lines and tying down troops.

79. A platoon of women snipers of the 2nd Pribaltic Front, commanded by Lt. Nina Lobkovskaya. This unit belonged to a Guards division and, obviously, the women won many decorations for valour in service. Sniping was one important combat role assigned to women in the Red Army; another was driving tanks.



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80. Officers of the 143rd Independent Tank Battalion pose before their T-34-85 tank; third from the left is Major V. G. Kulikov, future Marshal of the USSR. Note the use of comfortable and popular civilian sheepskin coats instead of service issue garments.

81. A Soviet partisan cavalry unit marches through a Ukrainian town in 1944. These units were usually incorporated into the regular Red Army once their home territory had been liberated, resulting in some rather motley arrays of uniforms.

82. A Soviet sergeant examines the PPSH of one of his students. Note the popular *pilotka* caps and also the shoulder straps, the latter reintroduced in 1943 having for decades been regarded as the hateful symbol of the Tsarist Army.







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83. The role of political commissars shifted as the war progressed from tactical leadership alongside unit commanders to one of a less military character. Commissars became responsible for unit morale and propaganda, and 'sing-alongs' with a unit musician were among the more popular activities.

84. A Soviet tank unit is greeted in the market square of a Ukrainian town in 1944. In the background is a T-70 light tank.

85. A Soviet partisan unit in the Ukraine in 1944. Besides fighting the Germans, these units were also frequently involved in scraps with the nationalist Ukrainian UPA and the Polish AK partisan groups.

86. Soviet troops try to overcome barriers in the defences protecting Finnish positions in Karelia. The Russians knocked Finland out of the war with a massive summer offensive in 1944.



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87. An anti-aircraft battery armed with the 85mm AA gun is informed that it has been decorated for its performance against the rare German aerial incursions of 1944.

88. Soviet scout troops in action in Finland in 1944. Assault engineers, scouts and snipers were the only troops regularly issued with camouflaged coveralls like these.

89. The PTRD anti-tank rifle was still in service as late as 1944 and 1945. Only marginally effective against tanks, it was nevertheless popular for long-range sniping against entrenched German troops, or against troops in buildings.

90. Soviet troops in winter coveralls advance on the Mozhaisk monastery.

91. The Soviet method of crossing rivers was to seize small bridgeheads with troops using these PK or MPK inflatable rings and hand paddles, and then gradually enlarge the bridgehead. This particular infantry group was photographed during the fighting in the Kuban swamps.



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92. A Cossack cavalryman wearing the traditional black fur cap during the Dniepr river crossing.
 93. T-34-85 tanks and accompanying infantry advance into Romania with the 1st Ukrainian Front, summer 1944.

94. Another illustration showing infantry using PK rings to ford a river. These troops seem to be fully equipped, and are wearing rubberized wading trousers.

95. An ML-20 152mm field gun in action in the summer of 1944.

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96. Troops from a Russian infantry unit chat in a captured Finnish trench on the Karelian isthmus in 1944. Note the Finnish Lahti anti-tank rifle. (Sovfoto)

97. A good view of the padded winter clothing that became common

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in 1943–44. The preponderance of PPSH sub-machine guns amongst the troops is noteworthy.

98. A scout patrol on the outskirts of a Polish village in 1944.

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99. The crew of a 107mm mortar prepare the weapon for firing.
 100. When horses fail, use men! Soviet artillery design stressed light weight, for reasons made obvious in this view of an anti-tank unit moving a ZiS-3 76mm divisional gun and a 45mm Model 42 anti-tank gun through a stream in the outskirts of Lvov. (Sovfoto)
 101. A Maxim machine gun mounted on a *tachanka* supports a Terek Cossack cavalry charge, May 1944. Cavalry still proved valuable in wooded areas or for scouting.
 102. Infantry dig in to repulse German counterattacks during Operation 'Bagration' on the 1st Byelorussian Front in July 1944.

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103. A Soviet scout unit enters Augustow, Poland. These scouts wear the distinctive camouflage overalls of elite units. (Sovfoto)

104. A Soviet patrol occupies abandoned German positions in 1944. White camouflage coveralls are still in use despite the change of season.

105. A relative of the ML-20 was the 122mm A-19 Model 31/39 field gun, which featured a longer barrel with no muzzle brake. The Soviet Army often used heavy artillery in street fighting, as a single round could disembowel an entire building. The scene here is Danzig.

106. One of the more ubiquitous types of Soviet artillery was the popular ZiS-3 76mm divisional gun, which could be used either as a field gun or in the anti-tank role. This weapon is being used by the 2nd Ukrainian Front in 1944.



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107. Soviet troops take Gatchina in the winter of 1944-45, their winter white coveralls having assumed a very dingy appearance!

108. The crews of an assault gun regiment warm themselves by the fire outside Poznan, Poland, in the winter of 1944-45. In the background is one of their SU-152s.

109. The largest foreign units allied to the Red Army on the Eastern Front belonged to the Polish LWP. The troops wore Russian uniforms, with Polish *rogatywka* fatigue caps and Polish insignia.

110. By 1945, Polish troops made up about ten per cent of the Red Army's strength. There were also smaller Czechoslovak forces, as well as Romanian and Bulgarian units once these armies had switched sides. Here, a Polish Maxim crew is shown in action, 1944.

111. A Polish infantry squad advances during the fighting in Poland in 1944.



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112. A Soviet ROKS-2 flamethrower team in action in 1945. The soldier at the right may be fitted with some sort of armoured vest.

113. A Soviet scout patrol in action. These units were often provided with special camouflaged jackets or coveralls.

114. Two Soviet soldiers equipped with ROKS flamethrowers move

▼ 113

forward during street fighting in 1945. Flamethrowers were very commonly used in urban combat.

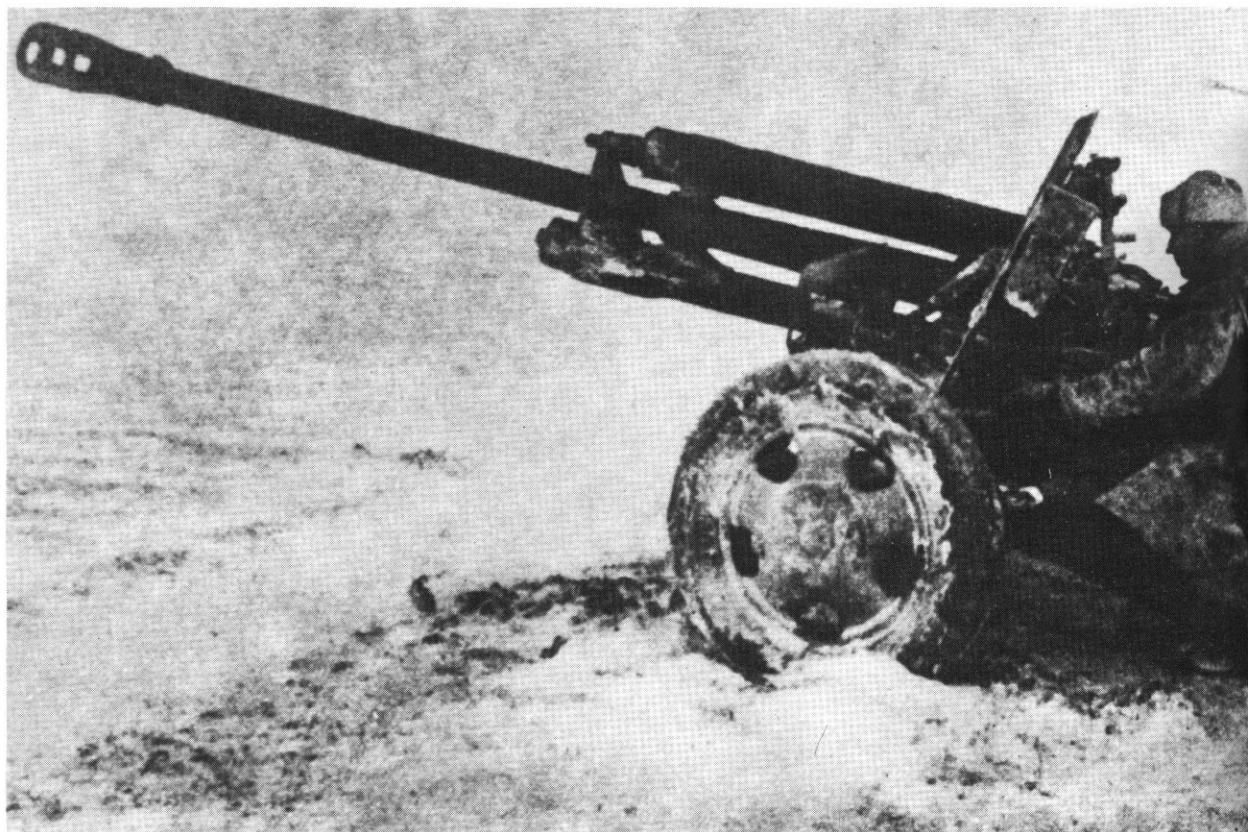
115. A popular morale booster: a sign indicating distances to Berlin and to Moscow.





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116. The ZiS-3 was the standard divisional gun of the Red Army during the Second World War, and the equivalent of the British 25pdr and the US 105mm howitzer. It was frequently used as an anti-tank gun.
117. Sr. Sgt. I. I. Gavrish in Wroclaw (Breslau). Gavrish was made a Hero of the Soviet Union, the Red Army's highest military honour for valour, for his performance in Breslau. He is wearing a rain cape, a popular item of equipment and one useful for other purposes, for example as a bed cloth or as a small tent.

118. One of the main advantages of the ZiS-3 divisional gun was that it was small enough to be manhandled. An anti-tank gun, the ZiS-2 57mm, was derived from it.

119. Troops of the 3rd Byelorussian Front pour into Königsberg in January 1945.

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120. Soviet infantry take a breather on the Oder river line in January 1945. By this stage of the war, the fleece-lined fur cap had become the standard winter headgear of the Red Army. (Sovfoto)
 121. A Cossack cavalry unit stands-to for inspection in Germany in 1945. The uniform had by now taken on a distinctly standardized form as a supply of traditional clothing for Cossacks could only be found in their homelands. (Sovfoto)

122. Soviet troops enter Gleiwitz, Silesia, in February 1945. Even at this late date, Soviet infantry units were still equipped with the PTRS and PTRD anti-tank rifles. (Sovfoto)
 123. Soviet infantrymen enter Schneidemühl, Germany, in February 1945. The winter padded *telogreiki* jackets were often bereft of insignia, which were worn on the uniform beneath. (Sovfoto)



▲124 ▼125





124. Soviet infantry manhandle a 76mm Model 27/39 regimental gun in the streets of Gleiwitz, to gain a little extra firepower. Most of these troops are wearing wool greatcoats instead of *telogreiki* jackets. (Sovfoto)

125. One of the major contributions of Lend-Lease to the Soviet 1944-45 offensives was the provision of over half a million vehicles like this Chevrolet 1½-ton truck. Such vehicles provided the Red Army with tactical mobility and adequate supply lines.

126▲ These scouts were the first Soviet troops to enter Vienna. The mixture of headgear and uniforms was typical of the Soviet Army of the period, especially of units which had been in the field for any length of time. Note the absence of helmets even on combat troops. (Sovfoto)

127. Even as late as 1945, the Cossack cavalry continued to be employed at divisional strength. Here, traditional Kuban Cossack capes are oddly topped by Model 1940 steel helmets. (Sovfoto)

127▼





128. The most popular Soviet infantry anti-tank weapons were captured German Panzerfaust rocket launchers and their Soviet copies, RPG-1s, seen here in action in the streets of Berlin.

129. The war concluded, a group of Cossack cavalry officers rests at a German seaside resort. The men are wearing traditional *papachka* astrakhan caps and blue cavalry breeches. (Sovfoto)

▲128 ▼129





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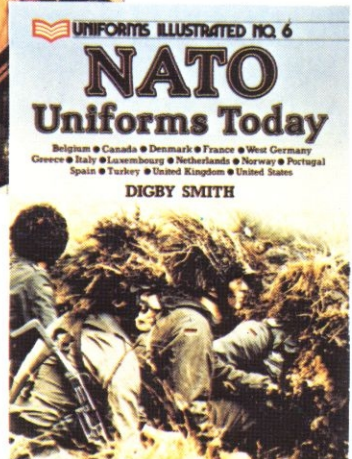
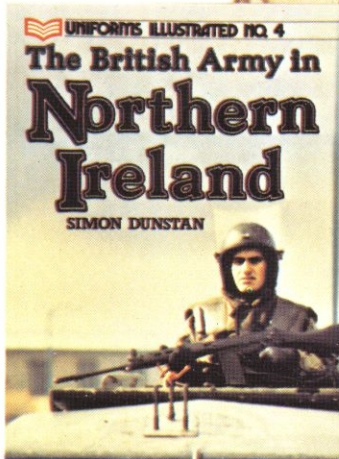
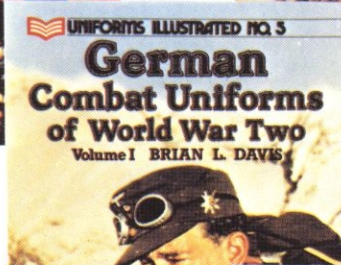
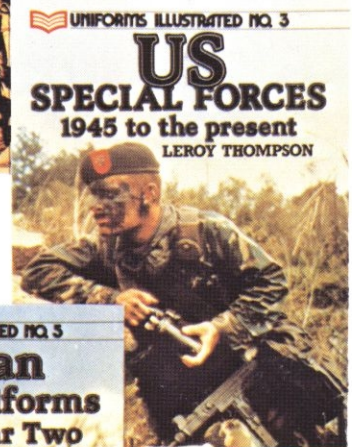
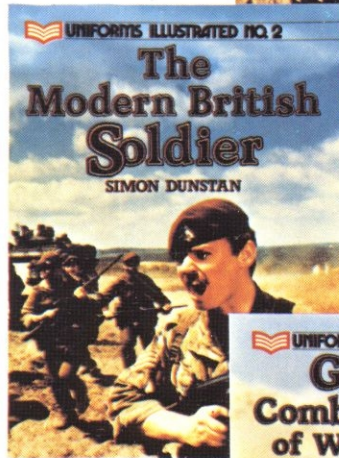
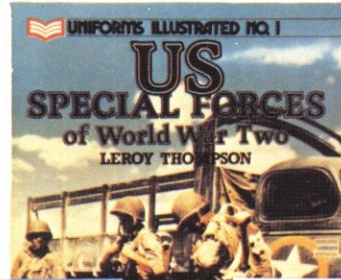
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