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CHANGES IN MILITARY WEAPONS AND EQUIPMENT OF THE SOVIET UNION DURING THE SECOND WORLD WAR

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ABOUT ARTICLE

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Abstract: This article presents analytical information based on various literature about the changes in the system of weapons in the Soviet Army during the Second World War and their importance during the war.

INTRODUCTION

The Second World War was a global conflict that involved many nations from around the world. One of the most significant players in the war was the Soviet Union. The Soviet Union played a critical role in the defeat of Nazi Germany, and its military weapons and equipment were a key factor in its success. Throughout the course of the war, the Soviet Union made significant changes to its military weapons and equipment, which helped it to gain the upper hand against the German army. In this article, we will explore the changes in military weapons and equipment of the Soviet Union during the Second World War.

Small arms were an essential component of the Soviet Union's military strategy during the Second World War. The Soviet Union made several changes to its small arms during the war, which helped to increase the effectiveness of its soldiers on the battlefield.

One of the most significant changes in small arms was the adoption of the PPSh-41 submachine gun. This gun was developed in 1940 and was widely used by Soviet troops during the war. The PPSh-41 was cheap to produce and highly effective in close-quarters combat, making it a popular weapon among Soviet soldiers. The gun had a high rate of fire, which allowed soldiers to put down a significant amount of fire in a short amount of time. The PPSh-41 was also highly reliable, which made it an excellent weapon for use in harsh conditions.

Another important change in small arms was the adoption of the SVT-40 semi-automatic rifle. This gun was introduced in 1940 and became the standard infantry rifle of the Soviet Union. It was highly accurate and reliable, and its semi-automatic firing mode allowed for faster firing rates than the bolt-

action rifles that had previously been used. The SVT-40 was also highly effective against German soldiers, and it played a critical role in the Soviet Union's victory at the Battle of Stalingrad.

Artillery was another critical component of the Soviet Union's military strategy during the Second World War. The Soviet Union made significant changes to its artillery during the war, which helped to increase the effectiveness of its soldiers on the battlefield.

One of the most important changes in artillery was the adoption of the Katyusha rocket launcher. The Katyusha was a multiple rocket launcher that could fire a barrage of rockets in a short amount of time. It was highly effective in destroying enemy fortifications and troop concentrations, and it played a critical role in the Soviet Union's victory at the Battle of Stalingrad.

Military equipment sites

Samples of Soviet weapons used during the 1941-1945 war are displayed in the open-air arena. Armored tanks, anti-aircraft and artillery weapons can be seen here. The work of replenishing the military equipment collections with new exhibits is ongoing.

(Slide 2) T-70 tank

The first tank presented is the T-70 light Soviet tank from World War II. It was produced at the Gorky Automobile Plant in October-November 1941. The army was accepted for service in January 1942.

T-70 light tanks, together with T-34 tanks, were in the armament of tank brigades and regiments, and were used as commander's vehicles in light self-propelled artillery regiments and brigades armed with self-propelled artillery devices.

The armament of the T-70 tank consisted of a 45 mm cannon and a turret-mounted 7.62 mm Dyagterev tank machine gun. The tank crew consists of two people - a mechanic, a driver and a commander.

Due to its high mobility, the T-70 tank perfectly performed the tasks of chasing the retreating enemy. Unlike the T-34 and heavy KV tanks, the T-70 tank was highly maneuverable, and due to the small size of the tank, it allowed the units moving on the T-70 to get as close as possible to the enemy without being noticed.

T-70 tanks actively participated in many battles of the Second World War. Due to their armor protection, weapons and maneuverability, they were superior to the light tanks of the Wehrmacht. Experienced crews of the tank in many cases entered the battle with average tanks of the Nazis from an ambush and won these battles.

The largest combat operation in which T-70 tanks were used in large numbers was the Battle of Kursk in July 1943.

The combat weight of the tank is 9.2 tons, the maximum speed is 45 km per hour.

(Slide 3) T-34 medium tank

The T-34 medium Soviet tank was produced by the tank construction department of the Kharkiv plant No. 183 under the leadership of Mikhail Koshkin.

Until the first half of 1944, it was considered the main and most popular tank of the Red Army, and from 1940, it began to be produced on a large scale.

T-34 tanks are intended for direct support of infantry in an attack, breaking through enemy defenses, developing an attack inside a breached enemy defense, pursuing a retreating enemy, encircling his large forces and other purposes. .

The T-34 tank had a significant advantage over the average German Panzerkampfwagen III and IV tanks in terms of its level of protection, maneuverability and gun power.

The appearance of T-34 tanks on the battlefield was a surprise for Nazi Germany, and in order to combat these armored fighting vehicles, the enemy began to develop new models of tanks, and soon the new Wehrmacht tanks "Tiger" and "Panther" were created.

Since the T-34 tank had a lower rate of fire than the enemy's new tanks, it was modernized. In 1944, the mass production of the T-34-85 tank with a new turret, stronger armor and a powerful 85 mm gun, capable of fighting the German Tiger and Panther tanks at long distances, or was put on. The perfect shape of the armored parts, the small total height and the new protection system made the T-34-85 tank a machine that was difficult to cause damage on the battlefield.

The T-34 tank, with its perfection and high technical and tactical characteristics, had a great impact on the development of the world tank construction industry. Each tank creator built his own tank based on the characteristics and advantages of the famous T-34 tank. According to many specialists and military experts, the T-34 tank is recognized as the most advanced tank of the Second World War. The T-34 tank has the following characteristics: crew - 4 people; weight - 26.8 t; speed – 53.5 km\s; the power unit is a 500-horsepower V-2 diesel engine; weapons - 76 mm cannon, 2 7.62 mm DT machine guns; movement on one charge - 300-370 km; front armor - 45 mm.

(Slide 4) SU-100 self-propelled artillery device

The SU-100 is a medium-weight Soviet self-propelled artillery device designed to destroy tanks during World War II.

It was built in early 1944 by the Uralmashzavod design bureau based on the T-34-85 medium tank. The SU-100 self-propelled artillery device was used in the last periods of the Second World War and in the Soviet-Japanese war.

The SU-100 has unique firepower and is capable of engaging enemy tanks at any target range. The armor-piercing projectile of the 100-mm D-10 S cannon penetrated 139-mm thick armor at a distance of 2,000 meters, one kilometer

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