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SUMMARIZED MINUTES Korean War Working Group Technical Talks U.S.-Russia Joint Commission on POW/MIAs (USRJC) August 8, 2018 Arlington, Virginia

U.S. Side Participants:

- Colonel Brian L. Pearl, USA
Acting U.S. Chairman, USRJC World War II Working Group
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- Chief, Joint Commission Support Division
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Russian Side Participants:

- Igor Albertovich Permyakov
Russian Chairman, USRJC Korean War Working Group
- Representative of the Ministry of Finance of the Russian Federation
- Representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation
- Acting Chief, Washington Office
Russian Side of the USRJC

Following introductions, the issues below were discussed:

1. Staff Sergeant Joseph Stephen Dougherty, USAF

Background: A document discovered in the Russian archives mentions a reprimand of a Soviet officer who came in contact with, and interrogated, an U.S. Prisoner of War (POW). The reprimand states the Soviet officer violated standing orders against contact with POWs and spells out the egregious particulars of his disobedience. Further, the reprimand provides clues as to the identity of this POW.

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The unnamed POW was identified in the reprimand as a radio operator of a B-29 Superfortress with whom the Soviet officer had contact from October 23-25, 1951. There were three B-29 aircraft shot down on October 23, 1951. No B-29s were shot down in October prior to the 23rd.

Of the three radio operators assigned to these aircraft, one perished during the shoot down of his aircraft, and his remains were found at the crash site. The second radio operator was captured and repatriated after the armistice. DPAA analysts were able to contact the second radio operator, who upon hearing this story, confirmed he was not the individual described in the reprimand. The third radio operator was Sergeant Dougherty, who was listed as MIA until he was presumptively declared dead in 1953.

Discussion: Colonel Permyakov reported that the archival research performed on this loss yielded no additional information. The U.S. Side requested the Russian Side conduct a search for information regarding the reprimanded Soviet officer. Colonel Permyakov stated that his team would search for more information on the Soviet officer.

2. Captain Harry Cecil Moore, USAF

Background: In 1997, DPMO (now DPAA) analysts traveled to Taganrog, Russia, and interviewed a 74-year-old Soviet veteran of the Korean War. During the interview, the veteran stated he heard that Colonel Ivan Nikitovich Kozhedub, the commander of the Soviet 324th Fighter Aviation Division, had interrogated a U.S. pilot. The veteran said the pilot's name was Captain Harry or Gary Moore, who had been shot down in the summer of 1951. The DPAA interviewers, seasoned by hundreds of such interviews, had never heard this level of detail.

A combat report found in the Central Archives of the Ministry of Defense of the Russian Federation (TsAMO) chronicled an aerial engagement on June 1, 1951, in which the time, location, and the type of aircraft shot down all matched Captain Moore's loss. This document reports that Captain Kalyuzhnyj followed the F-51 aircraft to where it crashed into the Korean Gulf.

On May 17, 2002, DPAA interviewed Aleksej Alekseevich Kalyuzhnyj in Odessa, Ukraine. According to Kalyuzhnyj, he was credited with shooting down an F-51 Mustang on June 1, 1951, under circumstances that correlate with the loss of Captain Moore's aircraft. Kalyuzhnyj recounted that he followed the F-51 as it headed towards the Korean Bay where it landed in the water 20-30 meters from the shore. He said the F-51 pilot appeared to be in complete control of the aircraft as it gently set down on the sea. He did not see the pilot leave the aircraft but believed that he could have survived the incident.

Discussion: Colonel Permyakov reported that the archival research performed on this loss had yielded no additional information. He stated they would continue to search for information. Colonel Permyakov added that requests for searches in other archives should be submitted through Colonel Andrej Taranov, Russian Side Executive Secretary. Colonel Permyakov was unable to provide any updates to the letter sent to General Vostrotin on November 8, 2017, for information on Captain Moore held in Russian Security Services archives.

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3. Korean War-era Soviet Topographic Maps

Background: In May 2016, during the 20th Plenum of the USRJC, the U.S. Side made a request for 1:50,000, 1:100,000, or 1:200,000 scale maps published in the mid-late 1940s. These maps are crucial to pinpointing crash locations of U.S. aircraft referenced in Soviet Korean War documents since geographic names on 1970s-era and contemporary Russian-language maps do not correspond phonetically with place names used during the Korean War-era.

In May 2017, the Russian Side responded and provided the U.S. Side with a series of 1:100,000 and 1:200,000 maps used during the Korean War. Unfortunately, it is very difficult to locate small villages without having any reference to a specific map sheet. A gazetteer would enable the U.S. Side to effectively and efficiently locate these small villages; however, the Russian Side responded such information is classified and unavailable to share with the U.S. side.

Discussion: The Russian Side stated the U.S. Side's request for maps of the territory of Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) was still under review. The U.S. Side will be notified of the decision.

4. New Issue: New Binder of Aircraft Crash Sites

Background: The U.S. Side presented a binder with 12 U.S. aircraft losses and requested the Russian Side study the information in the binder and attempt to provide coordinates for the corresponding crash sites. These losses are less detailed than the losses that were provided at previous meetings. Additionally, while the loss information could not be correlated to specific losses, the level of detail provided in Soviet search group reports made it evident they had discovered proof of a U.S. aircraft crash site.

Discussion: The Russian Side agreed to study the information and try to locate the crash sites.

5. Files of the Main Staff of the Air Forces of the Soviet Army

Background: In November 1951, the relationship between the Soviet 64th Fighter Aviation Corps (FAC) and the Air Force Operation Group (AFOG) changed and the 64th FAC began to report directly to Moscow. Correspondence was routinely exchanged between the 64th FAC and the General Staff of the Soviet Army, the Main Headquarters of the Air Forces of the Soviet Army, and the Main Headquarters of the Air Defense Forces of the Soviet Army.¹

The U.S. Side presented Soviet Korean War-era documents collected during its normal research activities at the Central Archives of the Ministry of Defense that proved an

¹ All branches of the Soviet military fell under the overall command of the Soviet Army. Since the 64th FAC included forces normally subordinated to both the Air Force and the Air Defense forces (*PVO Strany* – included anti-aircraft artillery units and air defense aircraft units) correspondence was sent both to and from the headquarters of these branches.

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abundance of information pertaining to U.S. military personnel, some of whom are not accounted-for, was sent to the Main Staff of the Air Force.

Among this information are combat reports; intelligence reports produced by the 64th Corps, the North Koreans, and the Chinese; interrogation protocols; personal possessions such as photographs, documents and equipment; search group reports; and photographs of human remains, aircraft parts, and wreckage.

At the 21st Plenum in November 2017, Colonel Permyakov reported he would have his team of experts review these files for such information, and if found, would take steps to have pertinent materials declassified and provided to the U.S. Side.

Discussion: Colonel Permyakov stated this issue was still under review and the material will be declassified if possible, in accordance with Russian law.

6. Declassification review of the remainder of two 64th FAC Files (TFR 544 and 545)²

Background: These two files, entitled “Material from the Interrogations of Prisoners of War” remain partially classified to this day. Among the declassified portion of these files are copies of letters of transmittal forwarding captured items to Moscow. Among these items are identification cards, vaccination records, drivers’ licenses, and other personal items belonging to crew members of shot down U.S. aircraft, some of whom are unaccounted-for. However, dozens of pages of both these files remain classified. By the very titles of the files, U.S. researchers are certain the classified materials pertain to U.S. servicemen, some of whom may have not yet been recovered, and requested Colonel Permyakov review the classified portions of these files.

Discussion: Colonel Permyakov stated this issue was still under review. Declassification of this material will be considered in accordance with the procedures established by the Russian Ministry of Defense.

7. Finding Guides³ for Anti-aircraft Artillery and Anti-aircraft Searchlight Units

Background: One of the first things U.S. researchers looked at when they started working in TsAMO was the collections of inventory sheets for the various units assigned to the 64th Fighter Aviation Corps. They wanted an understanding of the scope of work required to review these documents at TsAMO.

U.S. researchers were able to view almost all of the inventory collections. There were only a few collections left to view when U.S. researchers were abruptly told the inventory collections they would like to see were still classified.

The collections U.S. researchers were unable to view were related to the subordinate regiments of the 28th and 92nd Anti-Aircraft Artillery Divisions, and one regiment, the 1777th Anti-Aircraft Artillery Regiment of the 87th Anti-Aircraft Artillery Division. U.S.

² These two files, internally numbered within the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency as Transferred Foreign Records (TFR) 142 and 143 were collected from TsAMO and have the TsAMO archival citation of *Fond 64FAC, opis’ 174045, delo 142 and 143*

³ Finding guides are what we call collections of inventory sheets (*opisi*) for each unit.

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researchers were also denied permission to review the inventory sheets of the 10th and 20th Anti-Aircraft Searchlight Regiments.

The U.S. Side sent an official request for access to these inventory sheets on July 19, 2018.

Discussion: The Russian Side confirmed it had received the request. Colonel Permyakov stated the issue is still under review and that results will be presented at the plenary session in November 2019.

8. C-47D, Tail number 44-77261

Background: According to U.S. records, C-47D, with tail number 44-77261, assigned to the 21st Troop Carrier Squadron, 374th Troop Carrier Wing was conducting a leaflet dropping mission on April 30, 1951. On board this aircraft were six men: four assigned to 21st Troop Carrier Squadron; one U.S. Army Corporal; and one MSgt of the Republic of Korea Army.

The aircraft issued a distress call at around 1:00 p.m., which was heard offshore by the U.S. Navy. The C-47 was presumed to have crashed 50 miles south of Wonsan, DPRK. None of the men on board this aircraft have ever been accounted for.

The U.S. side found a Soviet archival document that possibly correlates to the loss of this aircraft and its crew. This document is a monthly summary for March 1952 of the activities of the Soviet 64th Fighter Aviation Corps. One source mentioned in this summary comes from the interrogations of captured aviators from C-47 aircraft. This particular aircraft is the only C-47 downed behind enemy lines from which crew members could have been captured.

During the 21st Plenum in November 2017, the U.S. Side requested the Russian Side's team of experts see if they can locate interrogation information on captured aircrew from C-47 aircraft.

Discussion: The Russian Side reported no new information regarding the U.S. aircraft C-47D, tail number 44-77261, has been found. They said requests for access to documents held in other archives, including the Archives of the President of the Russian Federation, should be addressed with the Russian Side Commission Chairman, General Vostrotin. The U.S. side will seek General Vostrotin's assistance.

9. Records Stored in the Archives of the President of the Russian Federation (APRF)

Background: Many years ago, the U.S. Side had a research contract with the Russian Diplomatic Academy to look for records related to the four wars in the APRF and in the Archives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. This contract was very useful in providing many historical documents that helped inform U.S. researchers about these wars from the Soviet point of view.

One report listed declassified and unclassified documents related to the Korean War. Some

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of the documents are strictly political and of little interest, but several deal with conducting the war. The U.S. Side has never had access to these documents and request the Russian Side facilitate access to them for study.

Discussion: Colonel Permyakov stated requests for access to documents held in other archives, including the Archives of the President of the Russian Federation, should be addressed with the Russian Side Commission Chairman, General Vostrotrin. The U.S. side will seek General Vostrotrin's assistance.

10. Demographic Questionnaires and Soviet Involvement with U.S. POWs during the Korean War

Background: Although U.S. researchers have seen documents in the records of the 64th Fighter Aviation Corps (FAC) at the TsAMO that verify that it was forbidden for all Soviet servicemen assigned to the 64th FAC to have any contact with U.S. POWs, we have also seen documents which lead U.S. researchers to believe the Soviet Union had an active program to approach, interrogate, and collect information by other means.

One such document provided by the Polish government is 182 pages and appears to be predominantly demographic questionnaires of U.S. POWs of Polish ethnicity. The document is in three different languages (Korean, Chinese, and Russian) and it is unknown specifically which country collected the materials. However, former Soviet, English-language interpreters that served during the Korean War have reported the Soviets formulated such questionnaires for the Chinese to give to U.S. POWs to answer. All of these individuals were repatriated; however, this is a significant document as it proves the Soviets were accumulating this information, if not authoring this material.

At the 21st Plenum in November 2018, the U.S. Side requested the Russian Side search for the repository of these materials and check the names from the "Personnel Missing-Korea", or PMKOR, list to see if such a questionnaire exists for them.

Discussion: The Russian Side stated demographic questionnaires completed by U.S. military personnel of Polish descent are not held in TsAMO. This issue should be addressed with the Russian Side Commission Chairman, General Vostrotrin. The U.S. side will seek General Vostrotrin's assistance.

11. New Issue: Request for Access to Primorskiy Military District Files for 1950-1953

Background: According to the *Soviet Military Encyclopedic Dictionary*, the Primorskiy Kray Military District was formed on September 10, 1945, and includes the territory of the Primorskiy Kray, excluding the area to the north of the Samarga River. Its composition included those forces located in DPRK and on the Kwantoon Peninsula. Headquarters for the Military District was located at Voroshilov (Ussuriysk). The Military District was disbanded on April 23, 1953, and its territory and forces were incorporated into the Far East Military District.

U.S. researchers have seen documents routed to and from the Primorskiy Military District and the Korean Theater of Operations, suggesting information on operations in the Korean Theater was shared with the Primorskiy Military District Headquarters.

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As such, the U.S. Side requested to have access to these files as part of the routine research access in TsAMO.

Discussion: Researchers at TsAMO will search documents of the Primorskiy Military District Files for the years of 1950-1953 for information regarding the fates of U.S. military personnel who were killed or are missing as a result of the Korean War.

12. Captain (Capt) Albert Tenney

Background: According to U.S. documents, Capt Tenney, flying an F-86 (Sabre), tail number 50-652, was the number two (Call Sign: Spare 2) pilot in a flight of two F-86s that departed Suwon Air Base (K-13) on the afternoon of May 3, 1952. The briefed mission was a fighter sweep operation in an area commonly known as “MiG Alley” near the Yalu River.

Documents acquired from the Central Archives of the Russian Ministry of Defense in 2000 and later by DPMO’s Joint Commission Support Directorate (JCSD) indicate a U.S. F-86 was shot down around 1630 Beijing Time (1730I – 1800I) by Soviet-piloted MiG-15s. Several documents show an F-86 crashed in the Province of Antun (Antung, now Dandong) near Myaogou Airfield. However, Russian documents also show two MiG-15 pilots claim to have shot down the U.S. F-86 Sabre; a Soviet Lieutenant (Lt) Mazikin from the 821st Fighter Aviation Regiment and Lt Krasulin of the 256th Fighter Aviation Regiment. Additional Russian documents show a search commission verified Krasulin’s claim and provided supporting documents including photographs of the wreckage and Capt Tenney’s ID card. The Soviets claim the wreckage and all other material evidence were handed over to Chinese authorities. A hand-written diagram indicates the engagement between Capt Tenney and Lt Krasulin occurred near Myaogou Airfield and that Capt Tenney crashed near the village of Kolushan’tsyu, China.

Discussion: The Russian Side stated that as a result of archival research, materials related to the fate of Capt Albert Tenney were found which confirm his aircraft was shot down on 3 May 1952. He was killed as a result. The materials are still classified, and its declassification will be considered in accordance with the procedures established by the Russian Ministry of Defense. If allowed, the documents will be provided to the U.S. Side.

13. First Lieutenant (1Lt) Robert Niemann

Background: 1Lt Robert F. Niemann served as a pilot assigned to 334th Fighter-Interceptor Squadron (FIS), 4th Fighter-Interceptor Wing. He was listed as Missing in Action (MIA) on April 12, 1953.

1Lt Niemann departed Kimpo (K-14) Air Base (AB) at 11:14-I (Korea time) on April 12, 1953 piloting an F-86E Sabre jet (tail number 52-2891). He was flying as the number four pilot in a flight of four aircraft, using the call sign “Charlie 4.” The briefed mission was a fighter escort operation for a reconnaissance flight targeting an area southwest of Kanggye. Due to bad weather at the target area, the reconnaissance aircraft scheduled to be escorted by the F-86s returned to base and Charlie flight’s mission was changed to a fighter sweep

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over the Sui-Ho Reservoir.

While patrolling the reservoir area, 1Lt Niemann's flight encountered a flight of enemy MiG-15s and was forced to separate into two elements. After several minutes of evasive maneuvers, one of the MiG-15, was able to close on Charlie 4. As the two F-86s rolled out heading south in a shallow dive, the MIG-15 moved into firing position. During the last seconds of the ensuing action, 1Lt Niemann was heard to say, "Here he comes again." Then both Charlie 4 and the MiG-15 slid from the wingman's view. No further transmissions were received from 1Lt Niemann. His F-86 was last seen at an altitude of 15,000 feet.

Repeated attempts to contact 1Lt Niemann by radio were unsuccessful. Aircraft from the 334th FIS conducted aerial searches of the area until 17:33-I, which did not reveal any trace of 1Lt Niemann or his aircraft. Point of loss was believed to be in the mountains south of the Yalu River, about midway between Sinuiju and the Suiho Dam.

Documents previously located in TsAMO by U.S. researchers reported 1Lt Niemann perished during his shoot-down.

Discussion: The Russian Side stated as a result of archival research, materials related to the fate of 1Lt Robert Niemann were found which confirm his aircraft was shot down on April 12, 1953. He was killed as a result. The materials are still classified and its declassification will be considered in accordance with the procedures established by the Russian Ministry of Defense. If allowed, the documents will be provided to the U.S. Side.

14. Russian Side Request: The Usage of National Archives and Records Administration Records

The Russian Side requested assistance from the U.S. Side in researching and facilitating a discussion with NARA officials regarding the use of digitized records. With permission, these records would be used in the development of the Russian website, "Pamyat' Naroda" (Memory of the People), an online database dedicated to documenting the fates of Soviet soldiers who died or are missing as a result of WWII. The U.S. Side agreed to assist with this request.

15. Russian Side Request: Soviet Service Members who are missing from Afghanistan

In preparation for the 2019 plenary session, the Russian Side requested assistance with identifying the fates of Soviet service members who are missing as a result of military operations in Afghanistan. The U.S. Side agreed to assist with this request.

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