

Periodical Press of the Ferghana Valley on the Eve and During the Second World War

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Abstract: The article examines the periodical press of the Fergana Valley of Uzbekistan on the eve and during the Second World War. The functioning of regional periodicals during the war years is analysed. The activity of military officers, photojournalists, freelance correspondents, as well as lino typists and typesetters of printing houses is considered. Based on archival data, new names of military journalists who served at the front and in the rear have been revealed.

1 INTRODUCTION

The population of Uzbekistan, after heavy losses during the period of collectivization and kulaks, as well as the policy of mass repression, in the late 30s and early 40s of the 20th century, in the conditions of a temporary peace, gradually withdrew and engaged in active creative activity. During this period, the appearance of Uzbek villages and cities began to change. On January 15, 1938, 5 regions were initially formed as part of the Uzbek SSR, including the Fergana region. March 6, 1941 Andijan and Namangan regions were separated from the Fergana region.


Further modernization of cotton growing and other branches of agriculture in the conditions of Uzbekistan was closely connected with the solution of the water problem. Given the importance of this issue, on the basis of the decision of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Uzbekistan and the Council of People's Commissars of the Uzbek SSR on practical measures for the construction of the canal dated June 6, 1939, the Great Fergana Canal began. On August 1, 1939, 160,000 people went to hashar - the laying of the Great Ferghana Canal. The Great Ferghana Canal was built by the Khashar in 45 days, that is, August 1 - September 17, 1939. The Great Ferghana Canal named after Usman Yusupov is a major irrigation canal in Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan

and Tajikistan. Built in 1939-1940, it was one of the largest hydraulic structures of the former USSR - Alinazarova, D.V. (2020) - Bolshoy Ferganskiy kanal. (1939) - Yefimov Yu. (1989).

2 REVIEW OF THE PERIODICAL PRESS OF THE FERGHANA VALLEY ON THE EVE OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR

Thanks to the construction of the Great Fergana Canal together with the Southern Fergana Canal (in 1940-1941), the volume of irrigation in the Fergana Valley increased significantly. The cotton harvest in the region has doubled. Of course, from the very beginning of work at the GFC, printed publications were organized to cover the construction of the canal - the newspapers «На Сталинской стройке» («On the Stalin Construction») and «Stalincha qurilishda» in Russian and Uzbek.

As an organ of the Central Committee and the Ferghana Regional Committee of the CP(b) of Uzbekistan for the construction of the Great Ferghana Canal, newspapers have been published daily since 1939 and distributed free of charge. And although in 1939 a commission was established under the Board of the People's Commissariat of the Uzbek SSR to

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develop the Uzbek alphabet based on Cyrillic, the newspaper «Stalincha qurilishda» in Uzbek was still published in Latin. In addition, on February 17, 1940, the newspaper «Northern Ferghana Canal», the organ of the Central Committee and the Ferghana Regional Committee of the CP(b) of Uzbekistan for the construction of the Northern Ferghana Canal, began its activity.

The newspapers «На Сталинской стройке», «Северный Ферганский канал» (On the Stalinist Construction Site and the Northern Ferghana Canal) introduced their readers to the works of each collective farm separately. In addition to the official and interesting sections of the newspaper, there was a section «Board of Honor», where the newspaper's editorial office constantly entered the names of workers for exemplary and selfless work on the construction of the Ferghana Canal and, of course, introduced its readers to such news. Similarly, in the newspaper «Stalincha qurilishda» in Uzbek, there was a column called «Hurmat Tahtasi». Also, a number of articles were constantly cited on page 3 under the heading «With a huge rise, builders are approaching the completion of earthworks». A great merit in the colorfulness and highness of these newspapers, photojournalists like A.Shaikhet, M.Penson, M.Albert, G.Zilmu, D.Nazarov, etc.

The Second World War forced the residents of the Fergana Valley to take up such hard work at such a time! Of course, the command to start the construction of the Great Ferghana Canal (GFC) was given from Moscow in order to develop new lands for cotton. The heroic work of the builders was highly appreciated by the government. By the Decree of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR dated April 28, 1940, 448 builders were awarded orders and medals. The sign «Participant in the construction of the Great Ferghana Canal» was established. Hundreds of leaders were awarded this badge. In a word, the construction of the BFC has become a nationwide construction site.

In addition to the special newspapers «На сталинской стройке» and «Сталинча қурилишда», «On the Stalinist construction site» and «Stalincha qurilishda», republican, regional, city and district newspapers were also introduced to all the achievements and details of construction. According to the Central Statistical Office under the Council of Ministers of the UzSSR, 32 newspapers were published in one Fergana Valley as of January 1, 1940: 2 regional, 8 city and 22 district newspapers. Almost all of these newspapers during this period create new headings covering the construction of the BFC and its employees. It is safe to say that the

construction of the BFC has entered our history as one of the greatest examples of labour feat and has become a symbol of the heroic labour of the Uzbek people. On June 22, 1941, Hitler's Germany launched an offensive against the USSR. For the peoples of the Soviet Union, including the peoples of Uzbekistan, the time has come for severe trials and selfless struggle against the Nazi invaders.

One of the important sources by which the history of the Second World War can be traced is newspapers. The contribution of mass media workers, journalists, correspondents of our country to the historic victory over Nazi Germany in the 1941-1945 war was enormous. The press was the sharpest weapon of ideological and political education of the masses during the war years. At that time, 200 newspapers were published in Uzbekistan, 124 of them in Uzbek. In addition, there were 52 magazines in the country, 19 of which were also published in Uzbek. The one-time circulation of newspapers in Uzbekistan was 900,000 copies, and in Uzbek - 600,000 copies. In addition to regular coverage of the situation on the fronts on the pages of newspapers and magazines, the journalistic pen covered the lives of those who worked tirelessly in the rear for a glorious victory, enduring hardships and suffering in the industrial and agricultural, educational and cultural spheres of the country.

After the separation of the Andijan and Namangan regions from the Ferghana region on March 6, 1941, the number of regional newspapers increased from 2 to 6. In 1941, the number of newspapers increased by almost 9 compared to 1937 and reached 38. The one-time circulation of regional newspapers over the years increased from 11569 to 51,565 thousand copies.

3 REVIEW OF THE PERIODICAL PRESS OF THE FERGHANA VALLEY DURING THE SECOND WORLD WAR

During the war, 38 newspapers were published in the Fergana Valley alone, 32 of which were in Uzbek. There were 14 newspapers published in the Ferghana region (2 regional, 2 city and 10 district). This is evidenced by the data of the Central Statistical Office under the Council of Ministers of the UzSSR on January 1, 1942. There were 13 newspapers published in the Andijan region (2 regional, 11 district) and 11 newspapers in the Namangan region (2 regional, 9 district). They reflect the materials of both central and local news. The number and work of wall

newspapers, battle sheets, lightning sheets and photo newspapers has increased significantly. The role of war correspondents is increasing, the number of freelance correspondents is growing.

During the Second World War, such regional newspapers were published in the Ferghana Valley as: «Сталин ҳақиқати» and «За Коммунизм» («Stalinist Party» and «For Communism») - the organ of the organizational bureau of the Central Committee of the CP (b)Uz in Namangan region, City Committee of KP(b)Uz and the organizing committee of the Supreme Soviet of the UzSSR, «Ферганская правда» и «Коммуна» («Ferghana Pravda» and «Commune») - the organ of the Ferghana Regional Committee and the City Committee of the Communist Party of Uzbekistan, the regional and city Council of Workers and «Сталинское знамя» and «Коммунист» («Stalin Banner» and «Communist») - the organ of the Andijan Regional Committee and the City Committee of the Communist Party of Uzbekistan, the regional and city Council of Workers' Deputies. The pages of these newspapers constantly published articles about the heroic deeds of our people at the front and in the rear.

3.1 Review of the Periodical Press of Namangan Region during the Second World War

The regional daily newspaper of Namangan region «Stalin haqiqati» began to be published from 1936 to 1958 in Uzbek. Its circulation during this period increased to 4 thousand. The first editors of the newspaper were T. Fatkhulin, Y.Koraev, and during the Second World War and after its end at different times were K.Uzokov, S.Tilla, T.Soatov, S.Otazhonov, A.Hamroev and A.Madumarov, T.Fatkhulin in the first years, one of the first went to war, as a war correspondent.

One chapter of the work of T.Ernazarov and A.Akbarov «The History of the press of Uzbekistan (1925 – 1952)» is called «The creation and strengthening of the front of the war of the press in the Uzbek language». The authors noted that in 1943, on the fronts of the Second World War, 13 frontline and 3 divisional newspapers were published in Uzbek: «Dushmanga qarshi olga» («Forward against the enemy») on the 1st Baltic Front, «Suvorovchi» («Suvorovets») on the II Baltic Front, «Vatan Uchun» («for the Motherland») on the 3rd Baltic Front, «Front haqiqati» («The Truth of the Front») on the I-th Belorussian Front, «Qizil askar hakikati» («The truth of the Red Soldier») on the 3rd Belorussian front,

«Vatan sharafi uchun» («For the honor of the Motherland») on the I-th Ukrainian Front and others.

Many Uzbek journalists served in frontline newspapers published in Uzbek and, seeing firsthand the military exploits of their compatriots, wrote poems and essays about them. In this, of course, the role of the editor of the Namangan regional newspaper Fatkhulin is great. He wrote articles for both frontline and regional newspapers. In the most difficult military year of 1941, B. Zhonboev was appointed the responsible editor of the newspaper «Stalin haqiqati». Under his leadership, the newspaper was printed daily, on all days of the week, delivering information to the people.

During the war, the seal served as an important and powerful spiritual weapon of the Soviet state in mobilizing the people and the army to fight, in raising the morale of soldiers on the battlefields. Of particular note is the contribution to the great victory of the so-called «unarmed soldiers» drafted from the Ferghana Valley into the army in 1941-1945, their heroic but tragic life and fate.

After the approval of the resolution of the Central Committee of May 24, 1943 «On the reorganization of the structure of party organizations in the Red Army and strengthening the role of front-line, army and divisional newspapers», political organizations did a lot of work on educating journalistic personnel, promoting new fresh forces from soldiers and officers capable of journalistic and literary activity.

The business and moral qualities of every military journalist were subjected to a thorough analysis, and people unworthy of holding such a high rank were expelled from the editorial offices. The requirements for the military knowledge of front-line newspapermen and their combat skills have sharply increased. Journalists persistently studied what was needed in the war, passed tests according to a certain program.

A lot of information about military journalists who have made a great contribution to the development and prosperity of the periodical press of the Fergana Valley can be found in the documents stored in the 796th fund of the State Archive of Namangan region. Raphael Ivanovich Myaskov proved himself to be a courageous and skillful military journalist – correspondent of «Stalinist», who wrote to the newspaper from the front. In particular, in the article Y.Egamberdieva «Moskvadagi bosh muhbirimiz» («Our chief correspondent in Moscow»), dedicated to the activities of R.I. Myaskov, writes: «... Here lives the real son of our Namangan, one of the ardent agitators, veteran journalist Rafael Ivanovich Myaskov. His

childhood, life and work are mostly closely connected with our flourishing city and the destinies of people with an open soul».

In 1944, at the turning point of the Second World War, R.I. Myaskov was sent to the front to write articles for the newspaper «Stalin haqiqati». At the front, R.I. Myaskov, together with experienced journalists such as K. Uzokov, I. Yusupov, I. Aliyev, jointly mobilized the people to achieve the great victory. His excellent knowledge of the Uzbek language, culture and traditions of the Uzbek people greatly helped him in his journalistic frontline activities. After the war, working as a correspondent for «Komsomolskaya Pravda», then in the newspapers «Soviet Russia», «Izvestia», traveled all over Uzbekistan. But wherever he was, R. Myaskov did not forget his homeland, his magnificent city of Namangan and its simple, hospitable people.

The Central Committee of the CPSU (b), together with the leadership of the Main Directorate of Political Propaganda, entrusted the representatives of party bodies in the Red Army with responsibility for minimizing problems in the work of war correspondents, as well as how to use all available resources to help them. So, by the beginning of September 1941, all representatives of the largest army publications were provided with cars. In addition, all of them were given special passes that allow them to go to the front line in order to receive accurate and timely information about what is happening on the front line. Also, the pass made it possible to request from the command of the units the necessary assistance in finding materials and information. Another important change in the work of journalists of army publications was the creation of a mobile photo lab - thanks to this innovation, TASS photographers accompanying the authors could process the pictures in the shortest possible time. This allowed us to speed up the process of preparing future editions.

All representatives of the military press received weapons, uniforms, and the issue of their nutrition was resolved. It was also decided to organize regular visits of war correspondents to meetings of the headquarters of army formations to obtain information about the situation at the front and the formation of topics most in need of coverage in army publications.

The years of the Second World War had a significant impact on the state budget of the country, however, the circulation of newspapers published in the valley only increased. If we consider the example of «Stalin haqiqati», then at the beginning of 1941 its circulation was 4 thousand, in 1945 it reached 6,300

copies. The responsible editor in the last years of the war was a colleague and friend of R. Myaskov - journalist K. Uzokov.

The second regional newspaper of Namangan region during the Second World War was a newspaper published in Russian – «For Communism». It was published from 1941 to 1958, the responsible editor of which was R. Pommrich, after him Glanstein worked in this position.

The outbreak of the Second World War required the restructuring of the press in a military manner. On the second day of the war, by a joint resolution of the Central Committee of the CPSU (b) and the SNK of the USSR, the «Soviet information byurosidan» was created and a front-line press system was created in a short time, which was multinational in nature. In all regional and district newspapers, the heading «Soviet information byurosidan» («From the Sovinformburo») became a permanent heading, where morning and evening news from the front and rear were published.

Decrees of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR on awarding fighters for feats in the fight against fascism were published on the front pages of regional and district newspapers. In particular, in the issue of the newspaper dated August 5, 1941, there is information about D.A. Zaitsev, I.I. Ivanov, N.A. Dobnov receiving the title of Hero of the Soviet Union together with the Order «Lenin» and the medal «Oltin Yulduz» («Gold Star»). You can also read the decree on awarding the 72nd and 108th cavalry regiments and the 12th separate cavalry Artillery Division with the Order «Dogwood Bayrok» («Red Banner») for heroic deeds in the fight against German fascism and for courage. The fourth page of the newspaper published mainly photographs from the fields and battlefields.

On January 1, 1942, an interesting article entitled «New Year's gifts to the defenders of the Motherland», written by special correspondents of the newspaper, was placed on the front page of the festive issue of the newspaper. It was reported that the collective farmers of the Papsky district of Namangan region sent New Year's gifts to the soldiers of the active army, where representatives of different nationalities fought side by side - Russians and Uzbeks, Tatars, Ukrainians and Belarusians and many others - dried fruits, nuts, almonds, apricots, shag, soap, woolen mittens, socks, towels, handkerchiefs with their own embroidery, etc.

The collective farm «Pravda», the Village Council sent 134 kg of sugar apricot, 15 kg of kishmish, and many other dried fruits to the valiant soldiers of the Red Army. The collective farm «Syr-darya», Sangsky

Village Council, sent 260 kg of dried fruits to the front-line soldiers, the collective farm “Yangi-Davlyat” - 187 kilograms. Workers and employees of the Gulbach state farm contributed over 2,600 rubles to the acquisition of gifts to veterans. And the staff of the newspaper «For Communism» regularly provided this kind of information on the front pages of the newspaper under the general heading «From the Soviet Information Bureau».

In the article A.Viktorov's «The Feat of Shura Moskovtseva» could be read about the strong-willed and courageous girl Shura, who, without fear of death, was able to obtain information about the location of mine zones, as a result of which 800 German mines were neutralized. Official reports from the front, decrees, publications of letters from the front and to the front, aviation news, publication of military songs and poems, literary notes from the front - such was the diverse subject of all published newspapers in the Ferghana Valley.

3.2 Review of the Periodical Press of Andijan Region during the Second World War

Another of the main official newspapers of the Ferghana Valley published during the Second World War was the Stalinist Banner, the predecessor of the Andijan Pravda. Since 1918, the newspaper has been published under the name «Izvestia», since 1921 – «Party Fortnightly», since 1930 – «Official Bulletin of the Andijan City Council of Workers, Dehkan and Red Army deputies», since 1941 – «Stalin's Banner», and since 1954 – «Andijan Truth».

The editors of the newspaper, in addition to A. Chaikin, were P.Sheremetyevsky, A.Agapov, N.Kovalenko, P.Pyshkin, M.Sviridov, T.Sigalov, I.Gerasimov, R.Safarov, N.Kondratenko, I. Navozhenin, N. Korkin.

During the war, the newspaper reported from the front, wrote about the contribution of Andijan people to the fight against fascism, called for labor feats in the name of the Great Victory. In the course of our research, we came across an interesting article published for the 70th anniversary of the Andijan Truth. It reads: On the anniversary of the newspaper, it is quite natural to remember its veterans, those who witnessed the formation and development of the «Andijan Pravda».

A significant place in the materials characterizing the heroism of Soviet people at the front was occupied by articles and correspondence, essays and summaries of war correspondents and linotypists, such as L.Grishnin, E.Ya.Dorosh, A.G.Gorbushenko,

N.A.Gryatsenko, Z.Usmanova, L.Sharovatova and V. Zakharov and H.Ermatov.

Leonid Andreevich Grishnin is an Honored Worker of Culture of the Uzbek SSR, a member of the Union of Journalists of the former USSR. The work experience of L.A.Grishnin is estimated in tens of years. He is the story of the newspaper itself. He came to the “Andijan Truth» during the difficult years of the war. And before that, he worked as a locksmith at a cotton factory in Tashkent, was a working correspondent for «Pravda Vostoka». The injury received at the factory, which made him disabled for life, did not allow him to go to the front. However, Grishnin no longer had a chance to work in production. Then I decided to become a professional newspaperman, because I had more than one year of cooperation with editorial offices, that is, I had some journalistic experience.

In August 1941, Grishnin arrived in Andijan. «The newspaper was the size of «Pionerskaya Pravda», Leonid Andreevich recalls, «it was printed on coarse paper, whatever it was - green, blue, gray, even on a candy wrapper. The set was made by hand, letter by letter. Now the publishing house has modern technologies, machines, equipment, high – quality raw materials in its arsenal - it is immeasurably easier to work. And then it was much more difficult. Every day is a summary of the Council of Information Bureau - detailed, thorough, alarming, but also optimistic. She was received by radio-teletypes, you know, there hasn't been a word about her yet. Then, without the slightest delay, the report was sent to print. We were in a hurry: the newspaper should never be late with the issue», - L.A. Grishnin noted.

In the first year of the war, evacuees began to arrive in the city of Andijan, Andijan region. Among them was the writer Yefim Yakovlevich Dorosh, who worked for several years in the Andijan press. It was here that his book of essays «Village Diary» was conceived and written in draft form.

And also, in the newspaper «Stalin's Banner» worked a talented publicist, a demobilized front-line soldier, an excellent journalist A.G. Gorbushenko.

The staff of the modern editorial office has not had such a position for a long time - a radio operator-typist. And yet this position was once one of the necessary ones. Some of the elderly people probably remember the unhurried, measured voice of the announcer, who sounded on the radio every day at a certain time, pronouncing names and difficult words. These radio stations broadcast government messages to newspaper editors. It was the duty of the radio operator-typist to accurately accept such a text on a typewriter. Nina Afanasyevna Gryatsenko, a war

veteran, a veteran of labour, began working in the editorial office of Stalin's Banner shortly after the war. Behind was the service in the evacuation hospital, hundreds of kilometres of frontline roads. She came to Andijan with her husband, an officer transferred to the local military enlistment office. For conscientious long-term work, Nina Afanasyevna was awarded two Honorary diplomas of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Uzbek SSR in commemoration of the 50th and 60th anniversary of the Andijan Truth, several commemorative medals, and for participation in the war - the Order of the Patriotic War II degree».

A number of journalists of the newspaper «Stalinist Banner» Zoya Usmanova, linotypists Lyudmila Sharovatova and Vladimir Zakharov enjoyed well-deserved authority in the team. Largely thanks to these people, the regional newspaper has repeatedly won prizes in the republican competition for the best printing performance.

3.3 Review of the Periodical Press of Ferghana Region during the Second World War

It did not differ by hard work during the war from previous newspapers - the organ of the Ferghana regional Committee and the City Committee of the Communist Party of Uzbekistan, the regional and city Council of Workers «Ferghana Pravda» was published from August 20, 1938, and the regional newspaper in Uzbek «Commune» from December 1, 1930 in Ferghana.

Representatives of the advanced intelligentsia - Uzbek journalists - actively cooperated with the press in those years. One of them, Ruzimatova Khalisakhon, born in 1927, during the war (1941-1945) worked in the editorial office of the regional newspaper «Commune» (now «Ferghana Pravda»). A faithful wife, a great mother and a patriot of her homeland, like H.Ruzimatova, with her creativity, made a feasible contribution to the cause of the Great Victory over the German invaders, publishing interesting articles that raised the spirits of our fighters and home front workers.

Military journalists have had no equal in the entire history of the world. Writers, publicists, poets, journalists, playwrights, together with all the people, stood up for the defence of the Motherland. Military journalism, diverse in form, individual in its creative embodiment, is the focus of greatness, boundless courage and devotion of the Soviet people to their Homeland.

The problems of Soviet journalism during the war years are extremely diverse. However, several

thematic areas remained central: coverage of the military situation in the country and the fighting of the Soviet army; a comprehensive manifestation of the heroism and courage of the people of this period at the front and behind enemy lines; the theme of the unity of the front and rear.

V.Muzaffarov's research notes a valuable find, a participant in the Second World War, a veteran of the regional newspaper «Ferghana Pravda». The author was personally given this find, i.e. a notebook with sketches and correspondence, by the son of the war correspondent of «Ferghana Pravda» V. Isaev. And the editorial board of the newspaper decided to acquaint its readers with the correspondence of the front-line journalist V. Isaev, who wrote down sketches, correspondence in a notebook under the headings «Valor of a conscientious officer», «United Family», «Battle for the ferry», «Warrior agitator», etc. He mentions in his sketches that 26 nationalities fought in one unit alone, it happened that they did not understand each other, but they knew the teams by heart. The only desire was to defeat the enemy sooner.

Another article «The Seventh Attack» by Yu.Efimov, a veteran of the newspaper Ferghana Pravda, tells about the Hero of the Soviet Union – Mansur Abdulin, who worked in the Ferghana Valley from 1938 to 1940.

4 ABOUT THE WORTHY CONTRIBUTION OF SOLDIERS FROM UZBEKISTAN TO THE VICTORY OVER THE NAZI GERMANS

Soldiers from Uzbekistan made a worthy contribution to the victory over the Nazi Germans. For courage, 227 people were awarded the highest award – Hero of the Soviet Union, 75 of them were Uzbeks. From among the Ferghana participants of the Second World War, more than 12 thousand people were awarded orders and medals, 13 people received the title of Hero of the Soviet Union.

Yuri Pavlovich Efimov - for about a quarter of a century, he was engaged in the search for Heroes of the Soviet Union, whose lives are connected with the Fergana region. If at the very beginning of his work the names of 16 Heroes of the Soviet Union were known, now there are more than 50 people on this list. For his great research work and participation in the military-patriotic education of young people, he was

awarded the badge «Excellent Student of Cultural Service over the Armed Forces of the USSR.

In the periodical press, the names of another former typesetter from Fergana, Pyotr Mitrafanovich, who fought for Lithuania, have been preserved. The list can be continued for a long time, but on the basis of such articles, we learn more about the professional activities of journalists of the Fergana Valley (military officers, photojournalists, freelance correspondents, linotypists and typesetters in printing houses, etc.).

5 CONCLUSION

From the above it can be seen that the periodical press of the Soviet period contributed to the creation of the cult of Stalin's personality with all its activities. His personal merits consisted in victories in the first five-year plans, in the democratic gains proclaimed in the new Constitution of the USSR, in the success of the construction of socialism.

But, despite this, the analysis of articles preserved in newspapers on the eve and during the war gives a lot of invaluable information about the contribution of our people to the Victory in World War II, in general, on the history of the periodical press of the Fergana Valley. During the war, the press workers of the Ferghana Valley showed dedication, fortitude, and every article they wrote was imprinted on the pages of the history of Uzbekistan.

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