

SPETSNAZ

THE INSIDE STORY OF THE
SOVIET SPECIAL FORCES



VIKTOR SUVOROV

Spetsnaz The Inside Story Of The Soviet Special Forces

Tao Wei



Spetsnaz The Inside Story Of The Soviet Special Forces:

Spetsnaz: The Inside Story of the Soviet Special Forces Viktor Suvorov, 1988-09-01 Viktor Suvorov is a Soviet army officer who has defected to the West Here is the full story of the Spetsnaz forces the Soviet army's secret killer elite This is the first comprehensive insight for the West into a Soviet army within an army whose existence has been known until recently only to a few highly placed people most of whom would deny it The spetsnaz Soviet special forces are one of the more shadowy and ruthless secret special forces in the world Controlled by military intelligence the GRU spetsnaz units are recruited from the ranks of the toughest officers and men in the Soviet Army the cutting edge of Soviet military might In modern warfare their primary task is the destruction of enemy tactical nuclear weapons but the training of anyone selected for spetsnaz prepares him or her for an unlimited range of tasks from undercover activity as a member of a Soviet Olympic sports team to piloting a midget submarine As an officer in the GRU the author was directly involved in the control and planning of spetsnaz In this revealing and sometimes shocking book he talks about his own experience about the military code of an armed force that kills its own wounded about the weapons strategy and training For anyone interested in the true military capability of the Soviet Union this book is essential reading

Publications Combined: Russia's Regular And Special Forces In The Regional And Global War On Terror , Over 2 400 total pages Russian outrage following the September 2004 hostage disaster at North Ossetia's Beslan Middle School No 1 was reflected in many ways throughout the country The 52 hour debacle resulted in the death of some 344 civilians including more than 170 children in addition to unprecedented losses of elite Russian security forces and the dispatch of most Chechen allied hostage takers themselves It quickly became clear as well that Russian authorities had been less than candid about the number of hostages held and the extent to which they were prepared to deal with the situation Amid grief calls for retaliation and demands for reform one of the more telling reactions in terms of hardening public perspectives appeared in a national poll taken several days after the event Some 54% of citizens polled specifically judged the Russian security forces and the police to be corrupt and thus complicit in the failure to deal adequately with terrorism while 44% thought that no lessons for the future would be learned from the tragedy This pessimism was the consequence not just of the Beslan terrorism but the accumulation of years of often spectacular failures by Russian special operations forces SOF in the apt US military acronym A series of Russian SOF counterterrorism mishaps misjudgments and failures in the 1990s and continuing to the present have made the Kremlin's special operations establishment in 2005 appear much like Russia's old Mir space station wired together unpredictable and subject to sudden startling failures But Russia continued to maintain and expand a large variegated special operations establishment which had borne the brunt of combat actions in Afghanistan Chechnya and other trouble spots and was expected to serve as the nation's principal shield against terrorism in all its forms Known since Soviet days for tough personnel personal bravery demanding training and a certain rough or brutal competence that not infrequently violated international human rights norms it was

supposed that Russian special operations forces steeped in their world of threats to the state and associated with once dreaded military and national intelligence services could make valuable contributions to countering terrorism. The now widely perceived link between corrupt special forces on the one hand and counterterrorism failures on the other reflected the further erosion of Russia's national security infrastructure in the eyes of both Russian citizens and international observers. There have been other more ambiguous but equally unsettling dimensions of Russian SOF activity as well that have strong internal and external political aspects. These constitute the continuing assertions from Russian media, the judicial system and other Federal agencies and officials that past and current members of the SOF establishment have organized to pursue interests other than those publicly declared by the state or allowed under law. This includes especially the alleged intent to punish by assassination those individuals and groups that they believe have betrayed Russia. The murky nature of these alleged activities has formed a backdrop to other problems in the special units.

Spetsnaz : the Inside Story of the Soviet Spe Viktor Suvorov, 1987 **Journal of Special Operations Medicine** , 2005 Living Soviet in Ukraine from Stalin to Maidan Michael T. Westrate, 2016-04-29

What the world is now witnessing in Ukraine is the cumulative effect of history and memory in the lives of the people of the region and this book directly addresses those subjects. Although the majority of scholarship on the Soviet Union focuses on top level political and intellectual elites, these groups were only tiny minorities. What was life like for the rest of society? What was it like for the vast population that usually supported the regime, mostly accepted the rules, essentially internalized the ideology and generally made the same choices as their neighbors and friends? What was it like to live Soviet as the USSR hit its peak as a superpower and then fell apart? What was it like to live Soviet in Ukraine in the decade after independence? This book answers those questions. It is an oral history of a group of military colonels and their wives, children and contemporaries covering their lives from childhood to the present. During this period, these military families went from comfortable economic circumstances, professional prestige and political influence as part of the Soviet upper stratum to destitution and disgrace in the 1990s. Today many of them are part of Europe's largest ethnic minority, Russians in Ukraine. The geographic focus is Kharkiv, the second largest city in Europe's second largest country, a Russian speaking city in eastern Ukraine. Based on 3 000 pages of interview transcripts and supplemented with materials gleaned from unprecedented access to personal family and institutional archives, the book investigates how families endured shifting social, cultural and political realities. By analyzing the lives of individuals in context, Westrate provides insights at the grassroots level. He reveals how ideological, professional, gender, ethnic and national imperatives, as developed and transmitted by elites, were internalized, transformed or rejected by the rank and file. He reveals how the subjective identities of individuals and small groups developed and changed over time and how that process relates to the parallel projects pursued by the leaders of their countries. In the process, he shows what those experiences have to offer the study of Soviet, post-Soviet and transnational history, bridging the boundaries created by the collapse of the USSR and exploring the

foundations of both twenty first century Ukraine and today s conflicts **Roman Special Forces and Special Ops** Simon Elliott,2023-06-30 Much has been written about the Roman army and the mighty legions that conquered their empire and then defended it for centuries against all comers But little has been written about the men and units employed when something more subtle than the march of legions into pitched battle was required This is the only book available dedicated to Roman special ops and the role of the *Speculatores Exploratores Protectores* and *Areani* Simon Elliott reveals the kinds of special operations conducted by the Romans tactical scouting ahead of the legions covert strategic reconnaissance in neighboring states espionage assassination or abduction of dissidents and enemies counter insurgency and close protection of Roman officials and commanders While such missions were frequently executed by ad hoc units or individuals detailed for that specific mission the author goes on to reveal the evidence for the aforementioned specialist units He concludes with an analysis of the extent to which these various forces corresponded to a modern conception of Special Forces These men were the eyes and ears of the Empire the deadly tip of the Roman sword **Moscow Memoir** James R. Holbrook,2018-01-05 This memoir portrays the ups and downs in the life and work of an American military attach in the Soviet Union from 1979 1981 The Iranian Hostage Crisis the failed attempt to rescue those hostages the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan and the American led boycott of the Moscow Summer Olympics all occurred during this period The author describes both the stark living conditions in Moscow and based partly on his reports from Moscow that the Defense Intelligence Agency declassified takes the reader on information collection trips to various cities in the Soviet Union That travel was in itself an adventure once his wife and he were forced to sleep in a provincial train station The KGB frequently tampered with his auto and personal possessions The authors job was to observe and report military activity that could have an impact on Soviet political military affairs After his earlier assignment with the U S Military Liaison Mission in East Germany where military observation was relatively easy the author became frustrated at the meager opportunities to gather useful military information in the USSR Consequently he became more aggressive in his collection efforts He began traveling more or less incognito about Moscow making civilian acquaintances and due to his language and cultural skills was able to blend into Soviet social gatherings He began to take risks some of which paid dividends Overconfidence however led to an incident in Rovno Ukraine There the KGB set up a swallow entrapment after which a Soviet intelligence officer whom the author had known in East Germany attempted to recruit him as a spy This memoir immerses the reader in an increasingly forgotten Cold War environment that unfortunately may once again be on the horizon of U S Russian relations **Centuries** Quintus Curtius,2024-06-22 Centuries is the complete collection of Quintus Curtius s essays from the years 2020 to 2023 It continues where his previous volume of essays Digest ended The range of topics includes moral philosophy history travel leadership and literature Also included is a special collection of aphorisms and maxims An enduring source of practical wisdom and inspiration these timeless writings are unified by and imbued with a passionate belief in direct experience moral structure and endurance in

adversity **Strategic Surprise in the Age of Glasnost** David Thomas Twining, **United States Army Combat
Forces Journal** ,1988

Unveiling the Power of Verbal Beauty: An Emotional Sojourn through **Spetsnaz The Inside Story Of The Soviet Special Forces**

In some sort of inundated with monitors and the cacophony of fast transmission, the profound power and emotional resonance of verbal artistry usually fade into obscurity, eclipsed by the regular barrage of noise and distractions. However, located within the lyrical pages of **Spetsnaz The Inside Story Of The Soviet Special Forces**, a captivating function of fictional splendor that pulses with organic emotions, lies an wonderful trip waiting to be embarked upon. Penned with a virtuoso wordsmith, this interesting opus manuals viewers on a psychological odyssey, softly revealing the latent potential and profound influence stuck within the delicate web of language. Within the heart-wrenching expanse with this evocative analysis, we can embark upon an introspective exploration of the book is central themes, dissect their fascinating writing type, and immerse ourselves in the indelible impression it leaves upon the depths of readers souls.

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