

Military Formations of the Central Asian Military District in Defensive Battles for Moscow

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Abstract. The article examines the role and significance of the military formations of the Central Asian Military District that participated in the battles near Moscow during the Great Patriotic War. The novelty of the article lies in the fact that the author for the first time analyzed previously classified and therefore inaccessible archival documents and newly published materials about the heroism of the soldiers of the Central Asian Military District, who took their rightful place in the ranks of the defenders of Moscow. At the end of 1941, 21 cavalry and 16 rifle divisions, 25 rifle brigades were formed in the Central Asian Military District. The entry of the Soviet Union into World War II dramatically increased the potential of progressive forces opposing fascism, as a country with great military and economic potential, with peoples having heroic traditions, entered the war.

Keywords: World War II, military formations, defense of Moscow, courage, Soviet People, Uzbek people

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Introduction

The Second World War of 1939–1945 was the largest conflict in the history of mankind, involving more than 62 countries of the world. Military operations were deployed in Europe, Asia, Africa and all oceans. Of the 110 million people were drafted into the armed forces, the total loss was 70 million. Of these, over 27 million died in battle [11:153].

The great Victory in the Second World War was, of course, achieved by the joint efforts of the peoples of the anti-Hitler coalition. Fighters from Central Asia also made their worthy contribution to the victory over fascism. Uzbeks, Kazakhs, Kirghizs, Tajiks and Turkmens, like residents of other parts of the country, fought bravely against fascism.

Over 4 million people were drafted into military units from Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan during the war years. About one and a half million fighters died of them, more than 780 thousand people were awarded orders and medals, including more than 1,000 people became Heroes of the Soviet Union, about 250 people became full cavaliers of the Order of Glory [11:5].

Victory was achieved through the efforts of all peoples, their unity, regardless of language and culture. And today, Victory Day in our countries remains a symbol of heroism and unity of fraternal peoples. I am sure that our peoples, protecting the memory of the great military and labor feat of their fathers and grandfathers, will jointly direct all their efforts to preserve the greatest value – a peaceful and prosperous life.

Celebrating the next anniversary of the Great Victory, we remember again and again the heroism of our people; analyze the lessons of that terrible war. Based on the study of the data sources, it can be argued that the contribution of the people of Uzbekistan to the Great Victory has not yet been fully studied. A lot of work has been done in recent years. First of all, previously classified and inaccessible archival documents and materials were opened to researchers. Cooperation with archival institutions, museums and foundations, scientists, historians, specialists, the public of the republics of the former Soviet Union and other foreign countries has intensified. During the Second World War, the Uzbeks fought on, risked their lives every minute and overcame difficulties. Today we have every reason to talk about the beginning of a new stage in the study of the history of the Second World War period. Thanks to the conducted scientific research, new important data on the participation of Uzbeks in the Second World War have been obtained today. The results of this work are widely covered in the media, in new books and albums. So, until now it was believed that out of 6 million 551 thousand people living in the republic at that time, about 1 million 500 thousand participated in the war. But, as the latest data shows,

...about 1 million 951 thousand people were mobilized from Uzbekistan to the front. This means that every third Uzbek has joined the fight against fascism with weapons in his hands. The fact that for so many years the names and destinies of about 451 thousand of

our compatriots who participated in fierce battles remained out of our attention, of course, cannot be considered fair¹.

At the same time, problems in the study of the history of the Second World War should be noted. Until now, for a number of objective and subjective reasons, many archival documents, personal files of generals, Heroes of the Soviet Union, and the role of military formations of the SAMD (Central Asian Military District) in the fighting near Moscow have not been studied. The study of the history of the Second World War will make it possible to shed more light on the past, provide a basis for studying modern social transformations, and analyze the patterns of development of the history of those years.

Many books have been published about the contribution of Uzbeks to victory: written by A.Y.Bezugolny, I.V.Bystrova, T.D.Juraev, G.K.Zhukov, Z.R.Ishankhodzhaeva, D.Z.Muriev, V.S.Murmantseva, M.A.Rakhimov, M.Ya.Sukhar, B.Shaposhnikov, and we note the materials of the international scientific conference “World War II in the history and memory of the peoples of Central Asia: events, participants, symbols” [1–14].

The topic of the feat of the Uzbeks, who served in the military formations of the Central Asian Military District and participated in defensive battles near Moscow, did not attract attention in scientific terms. This article attempts to highlight the participation of Uzbeks who contributed to the defense of Moscow.

To achieve the purpose of the study, the following tasks were set: to identify the role and significance of the military formations of the Central Asian Military District that participated in World War II, including in the hardest battles near Moscow; to analyze previously classified and inaccessible archival documents and newly published materials about the heroism of the soldiers of the Central Asian Military District, to restore the names of soldiers and officers of the Central Asian Military District, who participated in the Second World War.

Materials and methods

The author sought to identify a special aspect of the problem of the Second World War: the role and significance of the creation of military formations of the Central Asian Military District, which participated in defensive battles near Moscow.

The research materials are archival sources, published documents, eyewitness memoirs, statistical collections characterizing the role of the Central Asian Military District in the hardest defensive battles near Moscow.

The source base of the study was, first of all, the archival funds of the Russian State Archive of Socio-Political History, the Central State Administration of Uzbekistan, where

¹ Speech by the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev at a solemn ceremony dedicated to the 75th anniversary of the Great Victory and the Day of Remembrance and Honors. Uzbekistan during the Second World War (Album): A book album. Tashkent: Uzbekistan, 2021:10.

the author for the first time analyzed previously classified and inaccessible archival documents and unpublished materials on the activities of the military formation of the Central Asian military district, which participated in defensive battles near Moscow in 1941–1942.

The variety of sources used determines the use of various methods of working with them, therefore, the author used the basic methodological principles and methods of historical science: the use of general scientific analysis and synthesis, the systematic method, the method of historical retrospect, chronological, comparative method, comparative analysis.

Results

The Battle for Moscow was the largest in the history of the Second World War. The Germans planned to take the capital in 10–12 weeks, even before the beginning of winter, the population was going to be destroyed or hijacked to Germany. Life in Moscow was supposed to stop, and the city itself was planned to be destroyed. To prevent these plans from being realized, the Soviet people had to make tremendous efforts. This battle became one of the largest in the Second World War, with more than 7 million people participating on both sides.

For comparison: 4.7 million participated in the border battles during the attack on the USSR, 4.3 million participated in the Battle for Leningrad, 3.6 million participated in the Battle for Stalingrad, 4 million participated in the Battle for Kursk, 3.5 million participated in the Berlin Operation, and 7.035 million were involved in the Battle for Moscow, which was 100 thousand more than the number of the entire allied group troops and the Wehrmacht on the Western Front by April 1, 1945². Moscow was defended for less than 7 months, 203 days and nights, from September 30, 1941 to April 20, 1942. Neither before nor after the Battle for Moscow, nor in any battle did such a number of troops participate. The operation to capture Moscow began on September 30, 1941 and was called “Typhoon”. It was near Moscow that Hitler suffered his first serious defeat [12].

Hitler and his generals attached high priority to the capture of Moscow. “The capture of this city,” the Barbarossa plan emphasized, “means decisive success from both the political and economic sides.” Based on this, they concentrated the strongest grouping of troops in the Moscow direction – Army Group Center, which included more than 40% of all infantry formations and up to 75% of tank and motorized Divisions thrown at the Soviet Union [9:3].

Unconditionally confident of their imminent victory, the Nazis hoped that all this huge armored mass of troops, covered by powerful aircraft, like a hurricane of great destructive power – a Typhoon – would sweep away everything in its path and break into

² The Red Army is in the biggest battle in history. Guide. Moscow: Military Publishing House, 2007:3.

the capital, Moscow. It was hoped that Operation Typhoon would be a decisive operation on the Soviet-German front. However, as we know, the operation with the frightening name "Typhoon" failed. The German fascist troops in the fields of the Moscow region were defeated, which was an important historical event of the first year of the war and the first major defeat of the Nazis in World War II, forever debunking the legend of the invincibility of the German army created by fascist propaganda and finally burying enemy plans for a "lightning" war.

The Battle for Moscow changed the course of the war. Hitler faced the prospect of waging a long war, for which Germany was not ready. The outstanding commander of the Great Patriotic War, Marshal of the Soviet Union G.K. Zhukov, considering the course of the war, appreciated this battle in this way: "In the battle for Moscow, a solid foundation was laid for the subsequent defeat of Nazi Germany" [6:269–270].

Since 1941, units and subunits from Central Asia and Kazakhstan, the Caucasus, Bashkortostan and Tatarstan, formed on a national basis, began to join the active army. At the end of 1941, 21 Cavalry and 16 rifle Divisions, 25 rifle brigades were formed on the territory of only one Central Asian Military District (13:214). According to A.Y. Bezugolny, a total of 24 rifle Divisions, 47 rifle brigades, 35 Cavalry Divisions were formed in SAMD during 1941–1942, and in 1943 only 1 rifle and 2 mortar brigades [1:307].

The 389th, 12th, 162nd and 69th rifle Divisions, 21st and 44th Cavalry Divisions, 128th Guards Turkestan Mountain Rifle Division and other military formations were formed in Uzbekistan [7:27]. During the war, almost all of them were awarded military orders and began to bear the name of cities liberated from the fascists.

On November 13, 1941, Resolution № 894–SS "On the formation of national military formations", published by the State Defense Committee, it was instructed to form:

- in Uzbekistan 5 Cavalry Divisions and 9 special rifle brigades;
- in the Turkmen SSR 2 Cavalry Divisions and 2 special rifle brigades;
- in the Tajik SSR, 1 Cavalry Division and 2 special rifle brigades;
- Kazakh SSR 2 Cavalry Divisions and 2 special rifle brigades in the;
- in the Kyrgyz SSR 3 Cavalry Divisions.

The composition of the Divisions should be staffed by persons of local nationality, healthy, strong, fit for military service and not older than 40 years. The resolution also defined the composition of the units being formed, if possible from persons of local nationality [3]. The military formations of the Central Asian Military District, which were part of the Red Army, supported by all the people, despite the extremely unfavorable conditions, in defensive battles and battles drained the shock group of enemy troops and, going on a counteroffensive, dealt them a crushing blow.

The number of fighters and commanders of the Red Army who participated in the Moscow Battle as part of Divisions, brigades, regiments, battalions, squadrons, Divisions, companies, batteries impressively characterizes the scale and scope of this greatest battle. Dispassionate figures cannot enliven the drama of the bloody battles of these formations and units on the ground and in the air, in single combat with enemy tanks and aircraft, but they help to understand how great the price of victory near Moscow is.

Thus, from November 1941 to March 1942, in addition to the existing military formations, 14 national military formations were additionally formed in Uzbekistan, fighters who showed genuine heroism at the front.

In Uzbekistan, were formed 89th, 90th, 91st, 92, 93rd, 94th, 95th, 96th, 97th special rifle brigades, as well as the 99th, 101st, 102nd, 103rd Cavalry Divisions (4). Responsibility for their organization was distributed among the regions of the republic. For example, the city of Tashkent and the Tashkent region were responsible for the formation of the 89th Infantry Brigade and the 99th Cavalry Division, the Bukhara region for the formation of the 91st Brigade and the 101st Cavalry Division. Ferghana region – 94th Brigade, Samarkand region – 90th Infantry Brigade and 100th Cavalry Division, Namangan region – 102nd Cavalry Division, Andijan region – 92nd Brigade and 103rd Cavalry Division, Karakalpakstan – for the formation of the 97th Brigade [3].

The costs of forming national military units were covered from local budgets and from the savings of the population. Fighters of the 90th and 94th Uzbek special rifle brigades took an active part in the historic battle of the Red Army near Stalingrad. Each of these brigades consisted of 4 rifle battalions, a communications battalion, a mortar and antitank Division, a reconnaissance company, a sapper company, a company of machine gunners and a sanitary company, as well as a trucking company.

The 94th Uzbek Special Rifle Brigade was formed in the city of Ferghana in 1941–1942. At first, the brigade participated in the defense of Moscow, then, in October 1942, in the Battle of Stalingrad. In November 1942, she broke through the enemy front near the city of Serafimovich on the Don River and took an active part in the encirclement, liquidation and capture of the German fascist group of Field Marshal Pauls' army near Stalingrad. Since January 1942, Captain Sabir Sabirovich Akhunjanov served in this brigade – first as a company commander, then as a staff officer.

Uzbek Divisions, like other national military formations in the Red Army, with the beginning of a cardinal turn of events in World War II, since 1943, gradually began to join other units of the Armed Forces. Many combat military units formed in the republic have passed a long and difficult heroic path from Moscow to Berlin.

By the autumn of 1941, the situation at the front was still developing in favor of the Germans. At that time, the enemy was trying to get closer to Moscow and was sure that he would take the city.

During the Battle for Moscow, troops from all over the country, including Uzbekistan, were deployed to help the defenders of the capital. Echelons with men and weapons were moving in a continuous stream towards the capital for its defense.

On December 5, 1941, a radical turning point occurred in the battles near Moscow – the Soviet troops went on the offensive. In January 1942, the German Fascist troops were defeated and driven back. Thus, the immediate threat to Moscow was eliminated.

Our compatriots from Uzbekistan also took a worthy place in the ranks of the defenders of Moscow. For example, the soldiers of the 316th infantry Division formed in the Central Asian Military District demonstrated incredible courage and heroism. About 180 cadets of Tashkent military and military-political schools formed the core of the Division's

command and political center. The Division was commanded by Major General I.V. Panfilov.

Panfilov members Abdulla Togaev and Mamadali Madaminov killed 35 fascists on the Volokolamsk highway during fierce battles. The soldiers of the 5th company of the Division under the command of Ikrom Jalilov firmly held the defensive positions of the platoon during the heaviest battles. 34th, 35th, 36th, 37th, 38th, 39th, 40th special brigades staffed by cadets from Central Asian military schools participated in the defense of Moscow. The 258th Infantry, 44th and 21st (later 14th Guards) Cavalry Divisions formed in Uzbekistan also took an active part in fierce battles. Among those awarded the medal "For the Defense of Moscow" are 1,753 fighters from Uzbekistan [3].

The group of selected enemy troops rushing to Moscow surpassed our forces defending the capital. Reaching the outskirts of Moscow and the proximity of the desired goal gave the enemy troops new strength to achieve this goal. But the powerful onslaught of the enemy hordes crashed against the fortitude and courage of the defenders of Moscow. The enemy was not only broken in the most stubborn fierce battles, but was driven back from the capital. The ferocity of these battles, the steadfastness and courage of the fighters and commanders of the Red Army, and mass heroism are evidenced by the transformation of dozens of formations and units that distinguished themselves during this confrontation into guard's formations and units³.

Table 1. Formations of the SAMD (Central Asian Military District) sent from the reserve of the Headquarters of the Supreme High Command to strengthen the troops which participated in the Moscow Battle (October 1941–April 1942)

Nº	Military unit number	Place of formation (military districts, fronts)	When were formed	Date of arrival at the front	In which military unit did they operate
Arrived in October 1941.					
1	312nd Infantry Division	SAMD, Aktobe	July 1941	6 October	43rd Army
2	312th Infantry Division	SAMD, Alma-Ata	July 1941	14 October	16th Army
3	238th Infantry Division	SAMD, Termez, Kerky	Май 1941	16 October	49th Army
Arrived in November 1941.					
4	57th Cavalry Division	SAMD, Ferghana	Сентябрь 1941	5 December	1st Guards Cavalry Corps
5	83rd Cavalry Division	SAMD, Samarkand	July 1941	9 December	61st Army
Arrived in January 1942.					
6	391st Infantry Division	SAMD, Alma-Ata	September-October 1941	22 January	3rd Shock Army
Arrived in February 1942.					
7	385th Infantry Division	SAMD, Frunze (Bishkek)	September-October 1941	1 February	50th Army

Source: The Red Army in the biggest battle of the History. The Guide⁴.

³ The Red Army is in the biggest battle in history. Guide. Moscow: Military Publishing House, 2007. P. 6.

⁴ Ibid

The Moscow operation unfolded over a vast area, the boundaries of which can be considered:

- in the north – the Volga River, from Kalyazin to Rzhev;
- in the west is the rokad railway line Rzhev – Vyazma – Bryansk (to Dyatkovo);
- in the south there is a conditional line Ryazhsk, Gorbachevo station, Dyatkovo;
- in the east – Kalinin, Ryazan, Ryazhsk.

The distance in a straight line: from Kalinin to Moscow – 160 km; from Moscow to Tula – 170 km; from Vyazma to Ryazan – 350 km. The surface of the territory where the military operations took place is a vast plain covered with a number of small flat hills and ridges of small hills. There are lowlands that usually stretch along rivers. Forests cover about 25% of the entire surface and are located mainly in the northeastern and central parts.

The average temperature for Moscow is November -3°, December -8°, January -11°. However, the winter of 1941/1942 was very severe, with a large snow cover. The average temperature this winter was as follows: in November - 5°, in December -12°, in January -19°. In some periods, frosts in January reached -35-40°. The thickness of the snow cover reached 50-65 cm [14:9].

The communication routes were quite well developed. The most dense network of railways, highways and dirt roads, as well as a large number of waterways, is located in the middle part of the territory. The central hub of the railway network not only for the Western Front, but also for the entire European part of the Union is Moscow, which is approached from different sides by 11 railway lines with a total capacity (peacetime) of over 500 trains per day. The highway network has mainly a radial outline (just like the railway network) centered in the city of Moscow. From here, the most important railways diverge in the directions to Leningrad, Warsaw, Kharkov, Voronezh, Gorky, etc. The Moscow–Smolensk highway is a powerful highway.

Thus, Moscow is the most important hub of railways, highways, dirt roads, waterways and air routes of the former Soviet Union. Such an important political and military importance of Moscow largely determined the nature of the operations of the Western Front.

It is appropriate now to recall those tragic and heroic days when all the peoples of the former USSR rose up to defend their homeland, realizing the enormous danger that German fascism with its misanthropic ideology carried with it. The entry of the Soviet Union into World War II dramatically increased the potential of progressive forces opposing fascism, as a country with a huge territory and great military and economic potential, with peoples having a great history and heroic traditions, entered the war.

It is necessary to pay attention to the direct participants in the hostilities, soldiers and officers drafted from the Central Asian Military District. The future Hero of the Soviet Union, Tashkent Salih Umarov, received his baptism of fire in the battles near Moscow. After graduating from officer school with the rank of second lieutenant, he was appointed a platoon commander in one of the units of the Red Army defending the capital [5:427–428]. The soldiers of S. Umarov's platoon showed courage and heroism in the battles near the village of Bobrovo and the city of Yelnya. The 35th infantry brigade at the front was also

called the “Uzbek brigade”, because most of its fighters consisted of Uzbeks. This brigade took part in the military parade on Red Square in Moscow on November 7, 1941 and directly from the parade entered the battle at Lugovaya station. S. Umarov was awarded 2 Orders of Lenin, the Order of the Patriotic War of the 1st degree, 2 Orders of the Patriotic War of the 2nd degree, the medal “For Bravery”. The title of Hero was awarded on May 31, 1945 for skillful leadership of the battle and personal courage⁵.

In the battles on the outskirts of the capital, Kayum Karimov, the former chief artist of the Namangan Theater, proved himself to be a skilled officer. Working as the chief of communications of the rifle regiment, Karimov provided excellent radiotelephone communication in the regiment. During a fierce battle near Moscow in October 1941, when the commander of one of the battalions was killed, Karimov assumed command and led the struggle of the battalion’s personnel. The onslaught of the enemy in the battalion’s area of operations was successfully repelled. In the battles near Moscow, the communist journalist Nemat Abdullayev died a brave death. He took the first fight in November 1941 as part of the 54th Cavalry Regiment. In several battles, he destroyed many Nazis. But the fighting continued with increasing ferocity. A group of soldiers, which included Abdullayev, defended the village of Barantsevo, an important node of resistance in the Moscow direction. The fascists tried their best to take over this village. The Soviet soldiers stood to the death: “We will die, but we will not miss the enemy,” was their decision. A bloody battle broke out, but the enemy could not advance a single step. Both sides suffered heavy losses. Abdullayev was seriously wounded, he was sent to the hospital, but the wound turned out to be fatal. For bravery and bravery shown in the battles near Moscow, Nemat Abdullayev was awarded the second Order of the Red Star. Nemat’s military friends buried him with military honors in the very village of Barantsevo, for which the glorious warrior from Uzbekistan fought to the end⁶.

In the ranks of the fighters, commanders and political workers of the 258th, which became the 12th Guards Division, there were 150 people awarded orders and medals of the USSR. Among them are Miromanov, Dzhumabekov, Odinaev, B.Urazov, G.Talipov, M.Bektemirov, V.Kashapov and many other warriors⁷.

There were girls among the defenders of Moscow. We can proudly call Zebo Ganieva. She is Uzbek on her mother’s side and Azerbaijani on her father’s side. In 1940 she enrolled in the acting department of GITIS. In the first days of the war, Ganieva, like hundreds of thousands of Moscow students, appealed to the military enlistment office with a request to send her to the front. The girl’s request was granted, and a few days later she was sent to short-term shooting courses. Here Zebo mastered a machine gun, learned how to shoot a sniper rifle, and got acquainted with the art of reconnaissance. In October 1941 she became a rifleman of the 3rd Moscow Communist Division. Here the girl perfected her sniper skills. In the spring of 1942, the Division arrived at the

⁵ Award documents. Available from: https://pamyatnaroda.ru/heroes/podvigchelovek_nagrazhdenie150033478/

⁶ The Book of Memory of the Republic of Uzbekistan. Tashkent: Encyclopedia, 1995. P. 534.

⁷ Ibid. P. 112–113.

Northwestern Front and joined active hostilities [10:83]. She was a radio operator and went behind the front line 16 times as part of the group, then defended Moscow as a submachine gunner on a tank, and then became a sniper. The whole country learned about her exploits – her photos and a message that she had destroyed 20 enemies with a sniper rifle were published in all central and local newspapers. Although in one of the conversations she said: “Tahir, I killed 129 fascists”⁸. At the same time, she always remained just a woman. For example, she said: “... when I found out that my nose was injured, I fainted. I was afraid that the shard had disfigured my face”⁹. In general, in the battles on the threshold of Moscow, Uzbek snipers destroyed: Iskhakov – 354 Nazi soldiers, Abubekov – 229 officers, Yusupov – 132 and Madaminov – 123 fascist soldiers and officers. For bravery in the battles on the threshold of Moscow, 1,753 Uzbek fighters were awarded the Moscow Defense Medal.

Among the formations defending Moscow was the 4th Cavalry Division formed in Tashkent. Representatives of Tashkent, Samarkand, Ferghana and other regions of Uzbekistan fought in it. Said Niyazov, a teacher from Shakhrisabz, a future knight of the Order of Glory of all three degrees, also participated in the defense of Moscow. During the bloody battles for Moscow, the names of representatives of the Uzbek people Kurban Atayev and Aminjon Rakhmanov also became known. Kurban was a machine gunner of the 1st squadron of the 52nd Cavalry Regiment of the 14th Cavalry Division. For his excellent command of weapons, skillful use of a machine gun, for courage and fearlessness in battle, he was awarded the Order of Glory of the III degree. A.Rakhmanov was an experienced telephone operator in the same 52nd Cavalry regiment. His telephone was constantly in good condition, continuous communication with the units was reliably ensured. Rakhmanov was awarded the Order of the Red Star. The Komsomol gunner from Namangan, Abdusattar Rakhimov, became famous in the battles for Moscow. When he joined the Red Army, he swore an oath to his father: “Father, I am going to war to defend our home, our city, our republic, our country. It is an honorable thing to defend the honor of the Motherland. And you can be sure that your son Abdusattar will not let you down.” He fulfilled his promise to his parents and returned home from the front as a Hero of the Soviet Union. Arifjan Mirzayev bravely defended the capital from the enemy. He was appointed head of the chemical service of the 520th Division. As an officer who knows his job well, Mirzaev has repeatedly inspired fighters to feats by personal example. He later participated in many battles and liberated Smolensk, Vitebsk, Minsk, Bobruisk, Bialystok, Warsaw¹⁰.

⁸ From the memoirs of the famous Azerbaijani artist Tahir Salakhov. Available from: www.1news.az

⁹ Ganieva Z. Evening Moscow, newspaper. 1943. May 6, №105.

¹⁰ Ibid.

Conclusion

Many of the above data indicate that fighters of different nationalities from the Central Asian Military District took an active part in the defense of Moscow and made a huge contribution to the Victory. However, this topic requires extensive study. Coverage of the activities of soldiers and officers of the Central Asian Military District who participated in the defense of Moscow is becoming increasingly important. In recent years, the study of archival documents related to the Second World War has intensified; new research and materials of oral history have been published. For historians, an important task is to determine the name of each hero, to consolidate courage and feat in historical memory. It is necessary to study the documents of the fighters who participated in the defense of Moscow, personal archival funds, that is, information stored by the descendants and relatives of the fighters, and interview them.

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