

conscript military training has been in force in the USSR
 for several years unlike the U.S. Drafting always takes place
 at 19 years of age, all other reasons for exemption will
 standing. periods of service are from 2 years in the north
 to 3 years in the south climatic conditions vary so
 much that many young men elect to go to the
 relatively sunny south to serve for three years than
 to the 9 month bitter cold of ranges in Siberia
 or Sakhalin in the far north-east. clothing issues
 are scarce in the beginning and in getting only
 cloths cleaned as is usually ordered that they are
 thrown into a common pile to be sorted off and steamed
 and brought back ~~with~~ ⁱⁿ ~~some~~ ⁱⁿ common pile
 with the result that a soldier never gets the same
 jackets and trousers twice barracks are usually
 bare and damp even in Murak where they are
 located in the oldest parts of towns behind high
 wall. pass are never given except on holidays and
 sometimes on Sundays or after numerous leave
 of 30 days is our armed forces government in their
 contracts are unknown. however, the greatest difference
 is pay after Marshal Mikalayan became commander
 in chief of the Soviet armed forces in the early
 1950's pay was summarily cut for common soldiers
 (privates) from 1500 rubles old money to (300 rubles
~~old money~~ ^{new}) a loss of 297 rubles ^(new) with 3 rubles are
 enough to buy 12 packets of cigarettes 20 cigs to
 a package. whereas 30 rubles ^{was} enough for a soldier
 to save up for his discharge the pay of a lathe worker
 in Murak is 90 rubles new money. the drop of
 money was less felt in the officer ranks since they
 had only a 10% cut up to the rank of major