



PRINCIPLES OF COMPILING AN EDUCATIONAL DICTIONARY OF MILITARY TERMS

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SUMMARY

Based on a term-graphic analysis of domestic and foreign military dictionaries, the author presents principles and methodology for their compilation. It is noted that military dictionaries, military regulations and military rhetoric are the three main sources of military institutional discourse.

Keywords: military institutional discourse, term-sphere, military terminological dictionary, definition

The analysis of the service and combat speech activity of military personnel indicates that at present the provision of normative and systematic representation of the sources of military institutional discourse acquires the character of an urgent scientific problem. Under the military institutional discourse, we will understand the type of communicative behavior caused by the professional and socio-cultural conditions of military activity.

The most important sources of military institutional discourse are terminological dictionaries. It is on the basis of their interpretation of the basic military terms that the combat regulations of the branches and types of the armed forces are written, which, in turn, serve as the basis for the development of combat and operational documents.

The term graphic study of domestic military dictionaries and encyclopedias from S.A. Tuchkov's "Military Dictionary" to the dictionary "War and Peace in Terms and Definitions" allows us to draw the following conclusions.

First. Almost all Russian military terminology dictionaries are encyclopedic dictionaries. This leads to the increased attention of the authors to the volume and content of dictionary entries to the detriment of the logic, accuracy, brevity of the definitions of military terms. Attempts to compensate for these shortcomings give rise to verbosity and widespread use of abbreviations and abbreviations in the texts of dictionary entries, which primarily affects the clarity and rigor of the presentation of the material.





Second. The consequence of this is, despite the desire declared by the developers to overcome discrepancies in the understanding of military terms and the ordering of the subject area, the extremely low normativity of domestic dictionaries, i.e. the relative non-necessity of exact observance of the meanings of terms when developing charters, combat and operational documents, when conducting military scientific research and when used in the educational process of military universities.

Inattention to the use of the term Vedic incorrect wording leads to the fact that the most important documents - combat regulations are clogged with unnecessary, poorly formulated definitions built on the basis of an absurd classification carried out in violation of the elementary rules of formal logic. This distracts the developers of the statutes from the main thing - the need to convey the atmosphere of combat in the text of the charter, educating the military audience in the spirit of science to win, developing specific recommendations for actions in a combat situation and striving to take into account the reader's address. On the contrary, the thought of the developers of our combat regulations, lulled by the solid pseudo-scientific definitions of "basic concepts", usually given in the chapter "General Provisions", either turns to scholastic research in the field of inventing new terms that do not add anything to the old, established ones, or develops along the way of complicating documentation and duties of officials.

Modern commanding and staff thinking cannot be brought up on insufficiently thought-out, confusing and wordy formulations, the origins of which are in terminological dictionaries. These shortcomings will inevitably be reflected in the texts of orders and orders, most of which are written according to who knows who and when the established template. But the template that saves in peacetime turns out to be powerless to convey anything beyond the faceless "decided", "I order", to mobilize the will of soldiers in simple and clear words for responsible and proactive fulfillment of their requirements in a combat situation.

Currently, a rare dissertation for an academic degree does without referring to terminological dictionaries for help in interpreting key concepts of the field of study. After that, as a rule, this concept is clarified by the dissertator, which is the reason to consider it a new scientific result. This kind of "contribution" to domestic science can mean nothing but its discrediting, since it leads to shallow and superficial research. This approach helps to shift the scientist's attention from in-depth research of content-important issues to compliance with the form that ensures recognition of his work only as a qualification work.

The use of poor definitions, aggravated by the "Improvement" of their teaching staff after the "Clarification" by researchers, leads to the fact that the definitions of military





terms in textbooks and textbooks, according to which they study at military universities, usually occupy a paragraph of 8-12 lines in the text. It can be difficult to understand them from the first reading, and it is impossible to remember them without intensive cramming. But it is the memorization and verbatim reproduction of military terms at seminars and exams that teachers demand, especially those who have made a feasible contribution to their "Clarification" and "Improvement". This leads to the formalization of education, a drop in interest in learning and creative activity of students.

The lack of a well-compiled explanatory dictionary of military terms leads to the fact that the scientific and pedagogical staff of military universities is being formed in a new field of professional activity for at least three years. It is until the expiration of this period that a person, even with a huge service and combat experience, is considered a "young teacher".

Explanatory dictionaries of military terms in the world term graphic practice are known. The Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms 2010 with additions from 2014, published by the US Department of Defense, is an example of an explanatory dictionary that meets modern requirements.

The dictionary consists of two parts: the first contains the main terms with the corresponding definitions; the second - the interpretation of abbreviations and acronyms. Dictionary articles usually occupy no more than four lines of text, are formulated clearly and logically correctly. Tabs on derived terms and corresponding nuclear terms (a term included in the so-called core dictionary) abbreviations and acronyms are contained in the text of the main article.

The third. Currently, encyclopedic dictionaries are losing relevance. Their function is successfully performed by scientific, educational literature and network resources such as Wikipedia, which are multiplying from year to year. Encyclopedias were historically developed in conditions of fragmentation and limited scientific knowledge. With the proliferation of publications describing "industry" subject areas, the term sphere of encyclopedic dictionaries has steadily declined. For example, the volume of the Encyclopedia of Military and Marine Sciences, published less than half a century after the Military Encyclopedic Lexicon, has already been tripled.

The time has come for explanatory dictionaries, and highly normative ones, acting as a kind of GOST standards regulating the term use in military affairs and in military activities.

With regard to this type of military terminological dictionaries, namely the explanatory dictionary of military terms, the following principles of their development





can be proposed: operationality in the design, modernity of the subject area, organization according to thematically alphabetical signs, regulated rationing.

The terminology system of an explanatory standardized dictionary should not be burdened with terms from military history, especially archaisms. The dictionary should optimally and exhaustively describe its current subject area.

Taking into account, as a rule, the low quality of definitions in military terminology dictionaries of recent decades, it is necessary not to try to borrow definitions from predecessors, but creatively, relying on the rules of formal logic, to make a complete inventory of military terminology.

In order to ensure normalization, interpreting it in the sense of the mandatory use of dictionary definitions in military affairs and in military activities, there is a need to use an administrative resource. Dictionaries, like combat regulations, must be approved at least by the commander-in-chief of the type of troops, and preferably by the Minister of Defense or the Chief of the General Staff.

When compiling a dictionary and writing dictionary entries of an explanatory dictionary of military terms, the following rules should be observed:

- separate terms from non-terms (do not include basic, involved, general scientific and general technical terms in the dictionary);
 - do not define obvious concepts (as a rule, terms of broad semantics);
 - strive to use generic definitions;
 - place articles of derived terms immediately after the article of the nuclear term, focusing on the keyword;
 - avoid empty references, give synonyms (if any) immediately after the formulation of the term, before its definition;
 - avoid using the concept of qualitative or relative adjectives as distinctive (essential) features;
 - it is preferable to use nouns than adjectives formed from them;
 - try to avoid abbreviations of words, when using abbreviations, make a link to the section of the dictionary containing their decoding;
- the definition of an already defined concept should not even be partially distorted in the text of related dictionary entries.

In accordance with the developed principles of compiling an explanatory dictionary of military terms, the methodology of its development can be presented in the form of a sequence of the following steps:

- determine the goals, thematic focus and reader's address of the dictionary;
- outline the hierarchy of parts of the dictionary term system;





- at the inventory stage, before starting to compile a dictionary, conduct a pilot study of the frequency of use of terms in this subject area, when choosing sources, preference should be given to an array of modern combat documents;
- from the dictionary, select a layer of special vocabulary, the terms of which have similar meanings in different parts of the hierarchy of the macro level of the terminosystem, and select extremely general definitions for them, these will be the nuclear terms of the macro level of the terminosystem;
 - distribute the dictionary elements into nested structures of the terminosystem (lower-level structures) and define the corresponding nuclear terms;
 - establish connections: a) between them and the nuclear terms of the macro level of the terminosystem and b) between the nuclear and derived terms of this level of embedding;
 - to define the terms and develop a system of references from the nuclear terms of the macro level of the terminosystem to the nuclear terms of nested structures and from them to derived terms;
 - compose and edit the dictionary.

When developing an electronic terminological dictionary, it is necessary to take care of creating a unified form of presenting data about a term in computer memory and entering them into a terminological database, which will facilitate the replenishment and recomposition of the dictionary according to newly set parameters in the future. It can be said that the military institutional discourse is codified in dictionaries, regulated on the pages of combat regulations, and implemented in the texts of combat and service documents, in the speech activity of military personnel. Thus, a small but very important brick in the foundation of the building of the science of winning is laid on the pages of military terminology dictionaries.

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