## THE ROLE OF BOARDER GUARDS IN THE GREAT PATRIOTIC WAR

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On May 28, our country celebrates the Day of the Border Guard. It was on this day in 1918 that the Decree of the Council of Commissars established the Border Guard of the RSFSR. And border guards guarded the borders of the USSR, and now they are guarding the border of the Republic of Belarus. The border troops showed themselves most heroically during the Great Patriotic War.

During the Great Patriotic War, the border guards took the first blow of the enemy. Most of them died on June 22, 1941. The outposts fought an unequal battle with the enemy, but none of them surrendered, and did not retreat without orders. On the first day of the war, 485 outposts entered the battle. The Germans allotted 30 minutes to capture the outpost, but some of them held out for a couple of months. More than 100,000 soldiers in green caps fought on the fronts of the Great Patriotic War, and more than 200 became Heroes of the Soviet Union. It was the border guards who forced the Germans to hide from bullets in the first battles, bowing to the Soviet land. On June 22, about 85,000 border guards of the western border took a sudden blow from the fascists. At the beginning of the war, the state border was guarded by about 670 outposts. All frontier outposts staunchly defended the sections of the border entrusted to them, most of them fought from several days to several months.

But there was a section of the border that the enemies were not able to cross. The garrison of the Brest Fortress covered itself with un-fading glory. The Nazis planned to take the fortress on June 22 by 12 in the morning. In the fortress they were opposed by 500 border guards, among whom were the personnel of the 9th outpost of the Brest border detachment, led by Lieutenant A.M. Kizhevatov. German divisions besieged the fortress, losing thousands of soldiers and officers. The border guards resisted until July 20, 1941, as evidenced by the inscription made on July

20, 1941 on the wall of the casemate: "I am dying, but I do not surrender! Goodbye Motherland!"

Border guards demonstrated immeasurable courage and heroism in the battles for the Motherland. The border guards fought bravely on Belarusian land. Here are some examples.

For example, the outpost of Senior Lieutenant Sivachev, which was located in the forest, was attacked by enemy sabotage detachments at 3:45 a.m., the border guards held the defense for 12 hours, everyone died.

The outpost of Lieutenant V.M. Usov was located near the Yuzefatovo monastery, a total of 30 border guards repulsed enemy attacks for 10 hours, when they ran out of cartridges, they went to the bayonet, 2 people survived. Lieutenant Usov was awarded the title of Hero of the Soviet Union and one of the outposts bears his name.

The outpost of Senior Lieutenant F.P. Kirichenko fought with the Germans until the evening of June 22, after the order to retreat, the border guards fought their way out of the encirclement. Senior Lieu-tenant Kirichenko was killed on the outskirts of the outpost, 150 Germans were killed.

The outpost of Lieutenant V.G. Maliev was located on the Bialystok salient and held out for 14 hours, repulsed 5 attacks and only by order the fighters withdrew, 13 people survived. When the enemy entered our land, all border guards from the first seconds to the very end fulfilled their military duty, remained faithful to the oath. Many of them lost their lives in the battles for our Motherland. The border guards of other outposts also stood to last, and no one left without an order. Only a few survived, although by the beginning of the war the Belarusian border district numbered about 20 thousand people.

Many of them lost their lives in the battles for our Homeland. And our memory of them will live forever

79 years have passed since the end of the war, but the memory of these heroes will forever remain in the memory of the people, whose names are an example of selfless loyalty to military duty, fearlessness, indestructibility of spirit and love for the Motherland.

Brest fortress also remains in our memory as a witness of heroism of the Belarusian border guards who were among the first to hold the defense against the enemy.

We must remember our history! There is no future without past!