

ЛЕТОПИСЬ ПОБЕДЫ

1945 -  
2025

## ШКОЛЬНЫЙ МУЗЕЙ (ДОНЕЦК)

ГБОУ «Школа №60 городского округа Донецк», ДНР



**Региональный сборник обучающих материалов  
на английском языке (10 класс)**

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ДНР  
2025

## ПАМЯТИ НАШИХ ЗЕМЛЯКОВ ПОСВЯЩАЕТСЯ

*Вспомним всех поименно,  
горем  
вспомним  
своим...  
Это нужно —  
не мертвым!  
Это надо —  
живым!  
Р. Рождественский*

Великая Отечественная война оставила неизгладимый след в истории нашей страны и в сердцах народов, каждый из которых вносил свой вклад в борьбу за свободу и независимость. Подвиг солдат, сражавшихся на фронтах, вызывает восхищение и уважение. Они проявили невероятную храбрость, стойкость и самопожертвование, защищая родную землю от захватчиков. Их героизм и преданность делу служат примером для будущих поколений.

Специальная военная операция, хотя и проходит в иных условиях, также требует от военнослужащих смелости и непоколебимости, ведь борьба за справедливость и мир в нашем регионе требует не меньших усилий и жертв. Солдаты, рискуя своими жизнями, показывают, что защита национальных интересов и забота о гражданах — это долг, который они выполняют с честью.

В обеих войнах за плечами солдат стоят не только сражения, но и истории о мужестве, товариществе и любви к своей стране. Эти подвиги невозможно забыть; они живут в памяти народа, вдохновляя на новые достижения и защищая от забвения.

Проект «Школьный музей» создан обучающимися 10 класса в рамках учебного предмета «Индивидуальный проект» по английскому языку и посвящен 80 годовщине ВЕЛИКОЙ ПОБЕДЫ.

**Актуальность** проекта о подвигах наших земляков в Великой Отечественной войне и специальной военной операции обоснована не только исторической значимостью данных событий, но и необходимостью сохранения памяти о героях, которые отдали свои жизни ради защиты Родины.

**Цель** проекта заключается в глубоком исследовании и документировании этих подвигов, чтобы вдохновить новое поколение на патриотизм и уважение к прошлому.

**Задачи** проекта включают в себя сбор и анализ архивных материалов, проведение интервью с ветеранами и их семьями, а также создание сборника материалов, который познакомит широкую аудиторию с героическими подвигами наших земляков, родных и близких наших учителей и учеников, их вклад в победу и преодоление трудностей военных лет.

Особое значение проекта в том, что он создавался молодежью, ведь именно молодым людям предстоит нести память о героических деяниях предков дальше. Таким образом, проект стал связующим звеном между поколениями, способствуя сохранению исторической памяти о военных подвигах и прививая чувство гордости за свою страну.

Работая над проектом, ученики 10 класса использовали не только материалы семейных архивов, но и экспонаты школьного музея «Светлица» и СТЕНЫ ПАМЯТИ в Контакте,

которые хранят уникальные документы, фотографии, награды и личные вещи героев войны и позволяют погрузиться в атмосферу тех суровых лет. "Светлица" — это не просто музей, это портал в прошлое, который связывает поколения во имя будущего. Руководитель музея – Каленская Н. В., учитель русского языка.

Работы обучающихся разные по жанру: краткий биографический очерк, воспоминания, эссе, интервью. Но их объединяет глубокое уважение к подвигам наших земляков и гордость за членов своих семей.

Особое внимание уделяется ныне действующим участникам специальной военной операции, которые продолжают боевые традиции своих предков. Мы стремимся воспитывать у подрастающего поколения уважение к истории и осознание важности военных подвигов, укрепляя чувства патриотизма и гордости за свою страну.

Аникеенко Н. В.,  
учитель английского языка

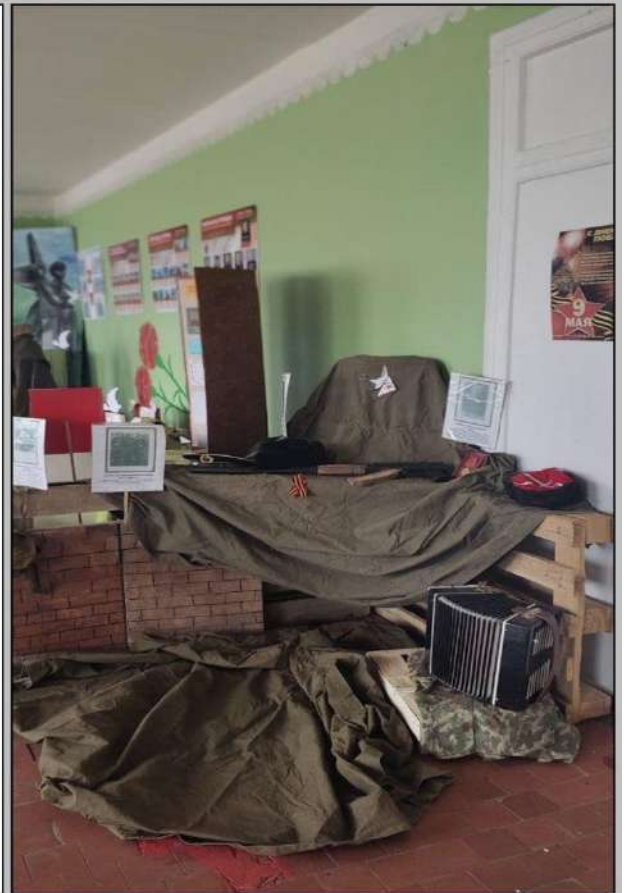
### **ИСПОЛЬЗОВАННЫЕ ИСТОЧНИКИ**

В сборнике используются материалы из семейных архивов авторов; документы, собранные в школьном музее «Светлица» (руководитель музея Каленская Н, В.), а также фотографии, взятые из открытого источника сайта Яндекс Картинки.



The Great Patriotic War left an indelible mark in the history of our country and in the hearts of the peoples, each of whom contributed to the struggle for freedom and independence. The feat of soldiers who fought on the fronts is admired and respected. They showed incredible bravery, fortitude and self-sacrifice, defending their native land from invaders. Their heroism and dedication serve as an example for future generations.

A special military operation, although it takes place in different conditions, also requires courage and steadfastness from military personnel, because the struggle for justice and peace in our region requires no less efforts and sacrifices. Soldiers, risking their lives, show that protecting national interests and caring for citizens is a duty that they perform with honor.



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## THE WAR IN HIS EYES

(ПИРКУЛИЕВА ВАЛЕРИЯ РУСЛАНОВНА, ГБОУ «ШКОЛА №60 ГОРОДСКОГО ОКРУГА ДОНЕЦК», ДНР)

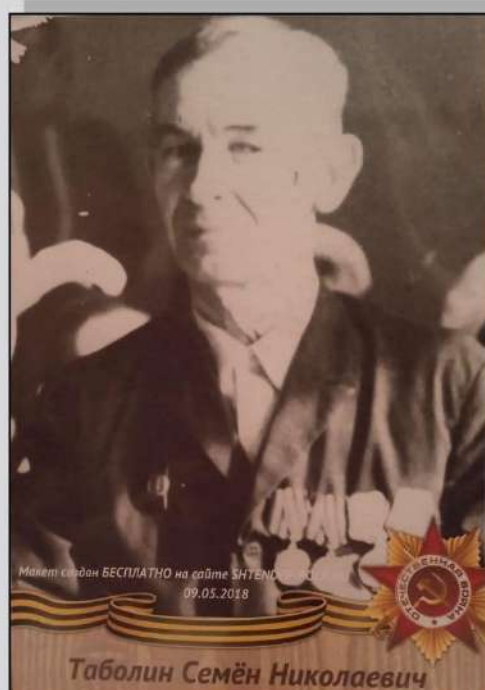
## THE MEMORY WALL

In the early days after start of the war the military offices were besieged by those who were eager to get to the front.

**Valeria Pirkulieva** finds out about one of them, **Semyon Nikolaevich Tabolin.**

## THE WAR IN HIS EYES

In a quiet, cozy house, where time seems to freeze in the melodies of old songs and the aroma of herbal tea, there lives a man whose life is a story of courage, perseverance and selfless love for the Motherland. This is Semyon Nikolaevich Tabolin, a veteran of the Great Patriotic War, the keeper of precious memories of those terrible years that forever left their mark on his soul. In 1941, when the war invaded peaceful life, Semyon Nikolaevich, a young, strong guy, did not hesitate to go to the front. He was called up from his native village, where his life flowed smoothly, filled with rural worries and dreams of the future. The war, like a hurricane, swept away all his plans, forcing him to change the familiar world to the harsh everyday life of trenches and explosions. Semyon Nikolaevich got into the infantry. He remembers the first time he saw the battlefield, how his heart trembled with fear, how he felt responsible for his Homeland, for his comrades, whose lives were also in his hands. He fought on different fronts, saw different battles, each of which, like a horror movie, was forever etched in his memory. He saw death, saw suffering, saw how people whose names he knew as close friends were gone forever. But Semyon Nikolaevich was not just a soldier following orders. He was a man who, despite the horrors of war, retained humanity, compassion, and the ability to help others. He remembers how, despite the lack of food and water, he shared his meager rations with a wounded comrade. He remembers how, despite the danger, he carried out a wounded soldier from under fire to save his life. He remembers how, despite his fear, he never retreated, did not let the enemy defeat him. There are tragic moments in his stories about the war: the death of comrades whom he considered brothers, and the bitterness of losses that left unhealed wounds in his heart. He remembers how his friend died in the battle near Moscow, with whom they went on the attack.



He remembers how in the battle of Kursk he lost his commander, who was like a father to him. The war changed Semyon Nikolaevich, tempered his character, and made him stronger and wiser. He has seen men hardened by war perform feats that seem impossible. He saw how people, not sparing themselves, went to their deaths to save their homeland.

After the war, Semyon Nikolaevich returned to his native village, where, despite all the hardships, he began a new life. He got married and had children, who became the meaning of his life. He worked, restored the economy destroyed by the war. But the war did not disappear from his life. It remained in his heart, in his memories, in his gaze. He often talks about the war to his grandchildren and great-grandchildren so that they know at what price they got a peaceful life. He talks about the heroism of Soviet soldiers, how they fought for their homeland, how they won. He says that war is a terrible disaster that must not be forgotten. He tells them that peace is the most valuable thing we have. Semyon Nikolaevich Tabolin is not just a war veteran. He is the keeper of history, a symbol of courage and perseverance, a man whose memories remind us of the price we paid for victory. He is a living example of the fact that even in the most difficult times a person can remain human, preserve kindness, compassion and love for life. Recalling the war, Semyon Nikolaevich often says: "War is not a novel, not a movie, but a terrible disaster that breaks the destinies of people." "We soldiers will never forget those who died, who gave their lives for the Motherland." "We stood up, we won, and I am proud that I was one of those who defended our homeland." Semyon Nikolaevich is a living legend. He is a man whose words and deeds are worthy of deep respect. His story is a reminder that the world we live in is the result of the enormous work and sacrifices of millions of people.



Таболин Семен Николаевич  
Орден Красной Звезды



Наградной документ

Дата рождения: \_\_.\_\_.1911

Наименование военкомата:

Липецкий РВК, Воронежская обл., Липецкий р-н

Дата и место призыва: Липецкий

РВК, Воронежская обл., Липецкий р-н

Дата поступления на службу:

\_\_06.1941

Воинское звание: рядовой

Воинская часть: 66 обо ПУ 1 ПрибФ

Наименование награды: Орден Красной Звезды

Приказ подразделения

№: 446 от: 23.05.1945

Издан: ВС 1 Прибалтийского фронта

[Информация об архиве+](#)

## ACTIVITY

What part did your family members take in the war, at the front and in the rear? Do some research and tell your classmates about it.

## DISCUSS

What are the consequences of the war for those who returned home, and how do they overcome the traumas left in their souls?



## IN MEMORY OF THE FALLEN

(РУДЬКОВА АНАСТАСИЯ МАКСИМОВНА, ГБОУ «ШКОЛА №60 ГОРОДСКОГО ОКРУГА ДОНЕЦК», ДНР)

## THE MEMORY WALL

After the end of the Great Patriotic War, the front-line soldiers returned to peaceful life to rebuild their country.

**Anastasia Rudkova** finds out about **Teslyuk Grigory Kirillovich**.

## IN MEMORY OF THE FALLEN

. While leafing through his grandmother's album, Alexander Sukhovei, my schoolmate, looks at the yellowed wartime photographs. In them, his great-grandfather, Teslyuk Grigory Kirillovich, is captured with his comrades beside a cannon. At the beginning of the Great Patriotic War, he was only 20 years old. He dreamed of becoming an agronomist, but like many of his peers, he went to the front to defend his homeland.

Grigory served as an artilleryman and held the rank of a sergeant. His path to Victory was not easy: he endured injuries and the loss of his battle friends. Despite all the trials, he did not give up and continued to move forward along the roads of Poland, Hungary, Austria, and Germany. For his courage and bravery, he was awarded two Orders of the Red Star and medals for "Courage" and "Military Merit." These awards became true relics for his family.

Despite the horrors of war, Grigory kept kindness and humanity in his heart. Four years of war were a real test of endurance and fearlessness. He eagerly awaited letters from his relatives, who were also going through difficult times. The joy of receiving news that his loved ones were alive gave him the strength to continue fighting.

And then the long-awaited Victory came. The meeting of all soldiers in Berlin, near the Reichstag, became a symbol of triumph over fascism. A month later, Grigory returned home to his loved ones. After the war, he worked as a foreman on a collective farm, continuing to labor for the benefit of his land. His perseverance and hard work helped restore the fields and homes that had been destroyed by war.

Every year on May 9th, Grigory would put on his suit adorned with his military medals. On this day, he remembered his fallen comrades who died heroically. Their feats and sacrifices will forever remain in our memory. He shared stories with his grandchildren, passing on the spirit of that era and the importance of remembering heroes.

The story of Teslyuk is a story of courage, resilience, and love for the Motherland. We must remember such heroes as Grigory Kirillovich and pass their deeds on to future generations. The memory of them is our sacred duty. We are proud of his exploits, and we will cherish this memory forever.



## DISCUSS

Did the members of your family take part in the Great Patriotic War?

What do you know about their military path?

## ACTIVITY

Find information about the other heroes of the Great Patriotic War. Tell your classmates about one of them.

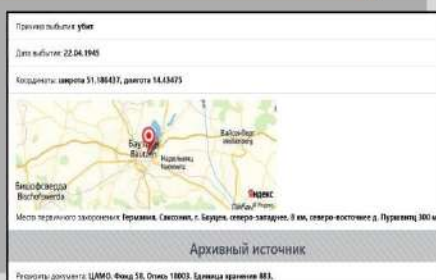
## MY GREAT-GREAT-GRANDFATHER

(АКОПОВ ИВАН ВАДИМОВИЧ, ГБОУ «ШКОЛА №60 ГОРОДСКОГО ОКРУГА ДОНЕЦК», ДНР)

### THE MEMORY WALL

Soviet soldiers of the Great Patriotic War are buried in 49 countries of the world.

**Ivan Akopov** writes about his great-great- grandfather, who was buried in Bautzen, Germany.



### MY GREAT-GREAT- GRANDFATHER

David Abelovich Tsaturov was born in 1912 and joined the Red Army in June 1941. He served in the 1680th Air Defense Aviation Regiment of the 2nd Air Army as a sergeant during the Great Patriotic War. For his courage and bravery, he was awarded the Order of the Patriotic War of the II degree.

The presentation of the award took place on an unspecified date, but the feat that earned him this honor was accomplished on April 22, 1945, as recorded in archival documents from the Central Archive of the Ministry of Defense of the Russian Federation.

The Order of the Patriotic War was one of the highest honors awarded during the Great Patriotic War, recognizing those who displayed exceptional bravery, fortitude, and courage in battles for the Soviet Homeland. The order came in two degrees, with the higher degree being awarded first.

The TsAMO archives contain information on the specific feats that led to David Tsaturov's high honor, but this data is currently unavailable to the public. Nevertheless, it is safe to assume that David Tsaturov demonstrated himself as a valiant warrior, fighting against the enemy and defending his homeland. His actions served as an inspiration for generations to come, becoming an example of bravery and heroism.

David Tsaturov, along with other heroes of the Great Patriotic War, will never be forgotten, their names forever etched in the memory of people as symbols of courage, determination, and love for their country

#### ACTIVITY

Do some research on life of the other soldiers buried in different countries of Europe. Tell your classmates about them.

#### DISCUSS

Why was it important to liberate Europe?

What places in your town are connected with the events of the Great Patriotic War?



## THE FATE OF A SOVIET SOLDIER

(МУХАММАД ДАНИЯЛЬ, ГБОУ «ШКОЛА №60 ГОРОДСКОГО ОКРУГА ДОНЕЦК», ДНР)

## THE MEMORY WALL

A total of 34,476,700 Soviet servicemen participated in combat operations during the Great Patriotic War of 1941 – 1945.

**Daniial Mukhammad** introduces one of them - Pavel Makarovich Yagodintsev.

## THE FATE OF A SOVIET SOLDIER

Each generation is responsible for preserving the historical memory of those who gave their lives and strength for the freedom and independence of their country. This text is dedicated to Pavel Makarovich Yagodintsev, the hero of the Great Patriotic War, who, like many others, stood up to defend his homeland from the fascist invaders during the years of severe trials from 1941 to 1945. His story is not only a feat, but also a reflection of the fate of many Soviet soldiers who heroically fought for peace and justice.

Pavel Makarovich Yagodintsev was born on July 15, 1910, in the village of Rutchenkovo. In 1932, he joined the 10th border detachment, and like many of his contemporaries, was conscripted into the Soviet Army in 1941. Initially, he served as a senior driver, but later became the commander of a machine gun squad and then military commandant during the war. During the war, Yagodintsev displayed courage in combat on several occasions. On May 13-14, 1943, he led a rifle squad in an operation to capture an enemy soldier, successfully completing the task under cover of darkness with the support of artillery. However, he received a minor wound on his way back.

Another significant event occurred on July 30, 1944, when Yagodintsev commanded a machine gun unit and was seriously wounded in combat. Despite his injuries, he always returned to duty, demonstrating not only his military commitment but also his true patriotism.. For his services, Pavel Makarovich was awarded several medals, including the medal "For the Defense of Moscow", the medal "For the Capture of Konigsberg", and the medal "For Victory over Germany in the Great Patriotic War". He also received the Order of the Red Star for his bravery and dedication. His life and accomplishments are preserved in his family's archive, as well as in his diary "My Way", which serves as a testament to his strength and resilience during those difficult times..

The story of Pavel Makarovich Yagodintsev is not only a story about the war, but also a reminder of the value of freedom and peace, for which millions fought. Today, when we remember the heroes, it is important to understand that their courage and self-sacrifice remain forever in our memory, and we are obliged to pass on these memories to the next generations.



## DISCUSS

Did any of your family members take part in the Great Patriotic War?

Why is it important to preserve the memory of war heroes?

Do some research on military servicemen who liberated Donbass. Tell your classmates about one of them.

## ACTIVITY



**MY GREAT-GRANDFATHER IS A PARTICIPANT IN THE GREAT PATRIOTIC WAR**  
(НАУМОВА КРИСТИНА АЛЕКСАНДРОВНА, ГБОУ «ШКОЛА №60 ГОРОДСКОГО ОКРУГА ДОНЕЦК», ДНР)

**THE MEMORY WALL**

In total, irretrievable losses of the Red Army during the liberation of Europe amounted more than 1 million people.



**Kristina Naumova** tells us about her great-grandfather who was buried in Poland.

**MY GREAT-GRANDFATHER IS A PARTICIPANT IN THE GREAT PATRIOTIC WAR**

War is one of the most terrible events that can happen in the world at any time. People die, become homeless, lose their relatives and friends, and get wounded. War is a constant fear for your life and the lives of loved ones. In the Great Patriotic War, each family suffered its losses.

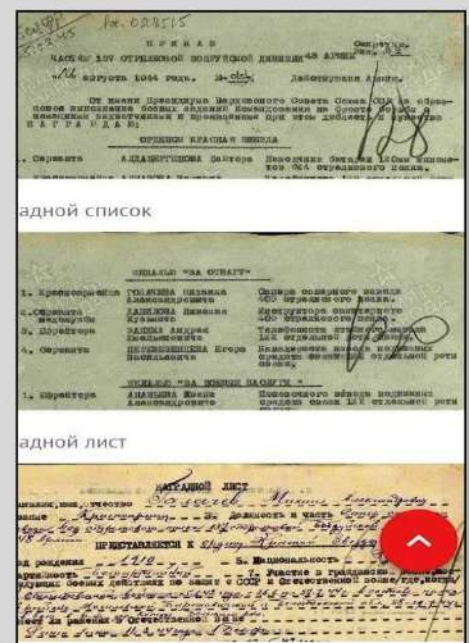
I want to tell you about my great-grandfather, who participated, like many others, in this difficult war for all mankind.

Golachev Mikhail Aleksandrovich was born on May 5, 1910, in the village of Ovchinets, Mogilev region, Belarus.

When the war began, my great-grandfather was 31 years old. At that time, he had a family of his own: a wife and three children. One of them is my grandmother Efrosinya. In June 1942, he was sent to the 2nd Belorussian Front, 17th Infantry Division. From that moment, the combat frontline life began for the machine gunner and sapper. He took part in heavy fighting in the Mogilev, Baranovichi and Brest regions. He was wounded in the battle near the village of Kotly. After being wounded and hospitalized, my great-grandfather was given 10 days off, but he went with his regiment to liberate his Motherland. So he ended up in Poland and died there on October 25, 1944. He was buried in Poland in a mass grave.

For courage and heroism, my great-grandfather was awarded the Order of the Red Star and the Medal for Courage.

Unfortunately, my great-grandfather lived a short life, but the memory of his bravery and courage in that terrible war remained in our hearts forever. I will always be proud of him!



**DISCUSS**

**ACTIVITY**

Describe to your classmates how the members of your family celebrate Victory Day.

What are the motives that motivate a person to enter the battlefield?  
Is his personal story, sense of duty, or desire to protect his loved ones inspiring him?



## A MAN WHO DEDICATED HIS LIFE TO HIS COUNTRY

(ТОЧЕНЬИЙ АНДРЕЙ СЕРГЕЕВИЧ, ГБОУ «ШКОЛА №60 ГОРОДСКОГО ОКРУГА ДОНЕЦК», ДНР)

### THE MEMORY WALL

37 million Soviet soldiers were awarded orders and medals during the Great Patriotic War.

**Andrey Tocheny** finds out about Roman Efimovich Chernov.

#### A MAN WHO DEDICATED HIS LIFE TO HIS COUNTRY

Roman Efimovich Chernov (1906-1994) was a man who embodied the trials and resilience of his generation of Soviet citizens. He was born in the Belgorod region of the Russian Empire and came from a rural family. He grew up during a time of great upheaval, including the Russian Civil War and the collectivization of agriculture, events that shaped his character.

When the Great Patriotic War broke out in 1941, Chernov, like countless others, was drafted into the Red Army. He served as a motorist on a landing craft in the Kerch Strait, a site of fierce battles. In this perilous role, he was responsible for transporting soldiers and supplies to the front lines. Roman Efimovich distinguished himself as a brave and dependable soldier, repeatedly risking his life during these dangerous operations. During one mission, his boat came under attack from German dive bombers, and he was severely wounded when machine-gun fire from the aircraft tore through his ankle. This serious injury ended his active service. He spent a long period recovering in a hospital, but the severity of his injury ultimately led to his discharge from the army. In recognition of his bravery and determination, Chernov was awarded the Order of the Patriotic War and several commemorative medals, honoring his contributions to the victory. Despite his injury, Chernov continued to contribute to his country's recovery. He moved to Sakhalin Island in the Far East, where he played a significant role in rebuilding the region. He worked in various capacities, including leadership positions, helping to establish infrastructure and drive economic development. In the early 1970s, after retiring, Chernov settled in the Donetsk region of Ukraine. In the small town of Tsukurino, he spent his final years, passing away a decade after his wife, with whom he had shared the challenges of war and its aftermath. He was laid to rest in the Donetsk region, remembered as a humble but honorable man who devoted his life to his country's victory and reconstruction.



#### DISCUSS

#### ACTIVITY

Describe to your classmates the living conditions of the war participants on the frontline.

What were the features of the upbringing and morale of Soviet soldiers and officers during the war?

## AN EXAMPLE OF REAL PATRIOTISM

(БЕЛОУС ЮЛИЯ НИКОЛАЕВНА, ГБОУ «ШКОЛА №60 ГОРОДСКОГО ОКРУГА ДОНЕЦК», ДНР)

### THE MEMORY WALL

In the Stalin (Donetsk) region alone, 236,000 people were mobilized in the first weeks of the Great Patriotic War.

**Yulia Belous** tells us about Ivan Georgievich Triskiba, our fellow countryman.



### AN EXAMPLE OF REAL PATRIOTISM

Ivan Georgievich Triskiba was born on May 22, 1915, in Konstantinovka city, situated in the the Konstantinovskiy district of the Stalinist region. He passed away on October 25, 1976. During the Great Patriotic War from 1941 to 1945, he initially fought on the Leningrad front before moving to the North-Western front. On March 24, 1945, Lieutenant I.G. Triskiba's mortar company successfully thwarted two enemy assaults through precise fire, resulting in around 80 enemy soldiers and officers left dead on the battlefield. Additionally, the opposing mortar unit was silenced. Throughout his command, Lieutenant Triskiba displayed both initiative and capability. His bravery and professionalism during the conflict earned him the Order of the Red Star.

The list of Ivan's awards contain

- The Order of the Patriotic War, 1st degree
- The Order of the Red Star
- Medal "For the victory over Germany in the Great Patriotic War of 1941-1945".

After the war, Ivan Georgievich worked for the Konstantinovskiy Glass Factory, contributing to the country's recovery from the ordeal of war. His life and exploits serve as an example of courage and dedication for future generations. His hard work and dedication became a symbol of perseverance for all those who faced the difficulties of the post-war period. His legacy remains a testament to true patriotism and devotion.

### DISCUSS

### ACTIVITY

Do some research on how society admires and perpetuates the exploits of the Great Patriotic War heroes.

What books about the Great Patriotic War have you read?

What is your favourite film about the Great Patriotic War?



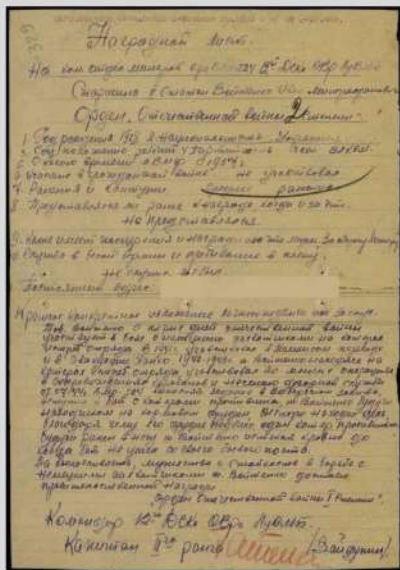
HE DIED ON VICTORY DAY

(ГРАГЯН АРТУР АРТУРОВИЧ, ГБОУ «ШКОЛА №60 ГОРОДСКОГО ОКРУГА ДОНЕЦК», ДНР)

THE MEMORY WALL

During the Great Patriotic War, our country was defended by four fleets – the Black Sea, Baltic, Northern and Pacific.

Artur Gragyan found out about Ivan Mitrofanovich Voitenko, our fellow countryman.



HE DIED ON VICTORY DAY

Ivan Mitrofanovich Voitenko remembered almost nothing about his parents, because he was orphaned early. The children were sheltered by the elder sister in Berdyansk. Ivan Mitrofanovich, together with his brother, entered F30 (factory training). From there he went to the army, to the navy. He served on boats as a miner, was a midshipman.

During the war, he served in the Baltic in Kronstadt as a torpedo boat commander with the rank of lieutenant. In the first month of the war, his boat was sunk by a German destroyer. Ivan Mitrofanovich was wounded. He was pulled out of the water by a sailor who had been his friend for many years. After the hospital, he was transferred to the Ministry of Defense as commander of 54-4. Ivan Mitrofanovich was wounded again, when a fragment of a shell hit him just below his heart. While Ivan Mitrofanovich was recovering from his wounds in hospital, his boat suffered another hit and all of his crew perished.

He ended the war as a captain of the 3rd rank, had many military awards.

After the war, he taught mine science at the Naval School in Kaliningrad. In 1956, he was demobilized from the army at the age of 36. He returned with his family to Berdyansk. He worked at the factory as a planer, He earned great respect at the factory, and after retirement he worked as a buoy keeper at the port.

He died in the hospital on May 9, 1992, coincidentally on Victory Day.

DISCUSS

- What is the role of military comradeship and mutual assistance in the war?
- What were the relationship between elders and juniors?
- How was the loss of friends perceived?

ACTIVITY

Do some research on the fate of the sailors during the Great Patriotic War. Tell your classmates about them.



## THE BATTLE FOR MARIUPOL

(КОЛОДА ДМИТРИЙ АНДРЕЕВИЧ, ГБОУ «ШКОЛА №60 ГОРОДСКОГО ОКРУГА ДОНЕЦК», ДНР)

### SPECIAL MILITARY OPERATION

Mariupol is an example of a successful operation to capture the city which once again demonstrated that morale and motivation still matter.

**Dmitry Koloda** shares his father's memories about the battle for Mariupol.



### THE BATTLE FOR MARIUPOL

My father is a serviceman in the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation and I would like to tell you about some of the difficult things he experienced during the liberation of Mariupol.

In early March 2022, his unit marched to the east side of Mariupol near Pobedy Avenue. As they were storming the city, soldiers from the Azov Battalion settled 150 meters from them, in the next building behind the cinema.

My father and his comrades had been liberating the building from the enemy for two weeks. They set up roadblocks on the roads and it took them a long time to advance. One of the hardest situations they faced was in a school, where they had knocked out an enemy detachment during the day and at night, Azov fighters returned to their positions.

This battle lasted two weeks until they blocked all underground passages leading to the Azov Steel Plant. They say that Mariupol was full of underground passages that the enemy used actively.. The battles for Azov Steel lasted for a long time, and the destruction caused by Ukraine was severe throughout the city. Buildings as tall as five stories could be pierced by shells, and roads were destroyed by mortar attacks. Those who refused to move to the basement or stayed in their apartments in Mariupol were simply shot by the opposing forces. During the day, old and young people were seen walking around, but they were actually scouts from the Armed Forces of Ukraine who surrendered the positions and posts of the Armed Forces of Russia. At night, opponents tried to kill them all. According to my father, the soldiers from the Azov Battalion had advanced medical technology, including special blood bags and first aid kits, which helped them survive. When my father's team entered a school, they didn't notice the bodies of their comrades, but later they found out that they had been burned under the Azov Plant instead of being buried. After my dad and his colleagues were evacuated from Mariupol, he remained in the conflict zone for another couple of months, but, thankfully, he returned home safely.

### DISCUSS

### ACTIVITY

Do some research on the other important battles during SMO. Tell your classmates about it.

Why was it important to liberate Mariupol? How did the city change after liberation?



## A DEFENDER OF THE DONETSK PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC

(ЛИХОНИНА КАМИЛЛА ВИТАЛЬЕВНА, ГБОУ «ШКОЛА №60 ГОРОДСКОГО ОКРУГА ДОНЕЦК», ДНР)

### SPECIAL MILITARY OPERATION

The parents of our students are taking part in the Special Military Operation. They are protecting our country.

**Kamilla Likhonina's** interview was approved by  
Alexey Vladimirovich Karamushka.

#### A DEFENDER OF THE DONETSK PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC

Dear readers, I would really like to interview Alexey Vladimirovich Karamushka, but unfortunately, I can only imagine what it might look like. I have written an interview with several questions that I would be interested in asking this remarkable person, a defender of the Donetsk People's Republic.

— *First of all, I want to express my sincere gratitude to you for agreeing and taking the time to give this interview. I consider it a great honor for me. My name is Kamilla Likhonina, and I sincerely hope for your cooperation. I am sure our conversation will not only be interesting but also enlightening for many people. Please tell me, when you decided to enlist in the armed forces of the Donetsk People's Republic? As far as I know, you volunteered.*

— This decision was significant and fateful for me. It was on February 22, 2022, when the President of the Russian Federation addressed the nation and announced the beginning of a military operation that I realized I could not stand aside and wait while my family and friends were in danger. In the words of the President of Russia, I heard that this was not just an address but a call to defend our homeland and our people. It was directed at every citizen of Russia. I firmly decided that I could not remain indifferent. The next day, on February 23, I enlisted in the armed forces of the Donetsk People's Republic. It was my choice, and I knew it would not be easy but necessary to protect those I love and whose lives I cherish.

— *I think it is very commendable on your part. Not everyone would dare to volunteer. After all, you risk your life defending your homeland and your loved ones. I believe this is an act of a true man. I think our readers would be interested to know who you served with and where you were stationed. Where did your battle path begin?*

— Oh, I served as a platoon commander with the rank of lieutenant. I also participated in the liberation of the major city of Mariupol, helped the civilian population, and carried out combat missions on the front line. I began my journey from Sartana, and it continued to Mariupol, specifically at the Azovstal plant. I tried to assist all residents and provided support, especially to the elderly, women, or disabled individuals.



— *Your actions are undoubtedly the kind of feats that your family would be proud of! Please tell us about one of your stories from the war.*

— During one of the most challenging combat missions on the front line, when the situation was particularly tense, my comrade and I managed to accomplish a critically important task — to restore a communication line that had been severed. This happened just a few dozen meters from the enemy's position, which added even more risk. Under relentless artillery fire, we were able to locate the damaged section of communication and successfully restore it. This work allowed us to maintain contact with headquarters.

— *Your actions and those of your comrade are heroic! It seems that for many you were a role model. As far as I know, you were discharged from service due to health reasons. Could you tell us more about this?*

— Yes, because every war leaves its mark on the body, heart, and mind. I don't like to talk about what happened there; I don't want to scare or traumatize my loved ones.

— *For me, and I think for many others, you are simply an amazing person. Anyone who has been to war and fought for their homeland, family, and loved ones undoubtedly deserves the title of a hero. Thank you very much for your time and this interesting conversation!*



### ACTIVITY

How images of war heroes are formed in popular culture: cinema, literature, and painting? Do some research and present it to your classmates.

### DISCUSS

What qualities and skills should participants in a special military operation possess?



## OUR SCHOOL LEAVER

(РОГАТЮК КАРИНА ЕВГЕНЬЕВНА, ГБОУ «ШКОЛА №60 ГОРОДСКОГО ОКРУГА ДОНЕЦК», ДНР)

SPECIAL  
MILITARY OPERATION

"I urge fellow countrymen who are in reserve to come to the military commissariats. Today I signed a decree on general mobilization." (D. Pushilin)

**Karina Rogatyuk** finds out about our school leaver **Vladislav Mikhailovich Poteryailo**.



## OUR SCHOOL LEAVER

Donbass, as a region, has long been a country of contrasts, going through economic and social difficulties. The conflicts that began in 2014 have changed not only the political, but also the social atmosphere. In the autumn of 2021, tensions in the region increased. At Kiev's request, Western countries have begun to increase military assistance to Ukraine, including the supply of lethal weapons. On February 17, 2022, the situation on the line of contact in eastern Ukraine escalated. The Donetsk and Lugansk People's Republics reported the most active shelling by the Armed Forces of Ukraine in recent months. On February 21, Vladimir Putin signed decrees recognizing the DPR and the LPR and instructed the Russian armed forces to provide peacekeeping functions in the republics. On February 24, in response to a request from the leadership of the Donbass republics for help, Russia launched a special military operation in Ukraine. On the same day, Kiev, which accused the Russian Federation of occupying its territories, severed diplomatic relations with Moscow. Immediately after the recognition of the independence of the people's republics, Western countries launched unprecedented sanctions pressure on Russia, which intensified after the start of the war.

Vladislav Poteryailo was born in 2002 in the city of Donetsk. In 2009, he began his primary education at School 60, where he completed his studies in 2020. His dream was to become a professional coach, just like his mentor, Sergey Sergeevich Novitsky. That same year, Vlad entered the Donetsk National University's Faculty of Physical Education and Sports to study sports training. While still in fifth grade, Vlad joined the Youth Sports School "Start," where he focused on cycling.

"I had to work hard to achieve my first victories. There were highs and lows, joys and frustrations. But there was always a coach who gave me the strength, confidence, and a kind word when I needed it most. He was like a second father."

Vladik was cared for and raised by his grandmother. And how happy Vladik felt when, in 2016, he won the first city bike race dedicated to Victory Day! Then there were All-Union competitions, including participation in large bicycle races in the city of Tolyatti and the Crimea. Finally, there was the long-awaited victory won in a week-long cycling race in Michurinsk. After this, Vladislav was awarded the title of "Master of Sports".



On February 24, 2022, the young man was called up for military service. First, there were military training camps in Khanzhonkovo, and on March 30, their rifle battalion took part in the first real battle near Sartana. Then, in April, the assault on Azovstal began, where Vladislav felt what it meant to lose comrades with whom he went on the attack more than once, shared all the hardships. Vladislav's conscription on February 24, 2022 was a decisive moment in his life. He went through intense training and clashes on the battlefield, which influenced his worldview and character.

In July 2022, Vladislav was sent to study at the control center for unmanned systems. On August 10, together with other cadets, he went to the Lugansk People's Republic. He took part in the liberation of the villages of Viktorovka, Rubovka, in fierce battles near Lisichansk, in which he showed courage, bravery, and fearlessness.

On November 27, 2022, in accordance with the order on the demobilization of all DPR students studying full-time and part-time, Vladislav resigned from the army and continued his studies at Donetsk National University.

For young people in Donbass, such as Vladislav, war has become an inseparable part of their lives. Many young men and women were forced to give up their dreams in order to defend their homeland, like Vlad, who had dreams of becoming a coach, but instead had to don a military uniform to protect his country.

Young people who have survived the conflict possess a unique strength and resilience that can be harnessed to rebuild their region and assist others. Vlad, like many of his fellow survivors, can play a significant role in shaping the future of Donbass through their knowledge and experience.



## DISCUSS

How do the participants of SMO deal with the consequences of their experiences when returning to civilian life?

## ACTIVITY

Do the research about the support from the state and society: What measures are being taken to rehabilitate and adapt participants after completing tasks? Tell your classmates about it.



## A HERO OF OUR TIME

(РЫБАКОВ АЛЕКСЕЙ ЕВГЕНЬЕВИЧ, ГБОУ «ШКОЛА №60 ГОРОДСКОГО ОКРУГА ДОНЕЦК», ДНР)

### SPECIAL MILITARY OPERATION

Our school leavers are taking part in the Special Military Operation.

**Alexey Rybakov** finds out about Anton Mezhdetovich Bessmertny.

#### A HERO OF OUR TIME

Who is the hero of our time? What does it take to be considered a hero? These are questions that have different answers for everyone. A hero can mean someone who sacrifices themselves for others, someone who discovers new medical breakthroughs that save lives, or someone who leads a country out of poverty.

Today, I want to tell you about Anton Bessmertny, an ordinary boy who was born on July 15, 2002, in the city of Torez. He started his education in 2009 at School No. 66 in Donetsk, where he studied for two years before transferring to School No. 72 in 2011. He then continued his studies there until 2014 when he transferred again to School No. 60. During his time in school, Anton was involved in the Capoeira club and represented his school in soccer, basketball, and track & field competitions.

Anton is a friendly, cheerful, and dependable person. He has been a great friend to many people and has made a positive impact on those around him. After graduating from school, Anton enrolled at the Donetsk National University's Law faculty. On February 23, 2022, he was drafted for military service. His military training took place in Khanzhonkov, and his first battle, in which he participated, was on March 30 near Sartana. Later, he took part in the assault on the Azovstal plant.

The Battle of Azovstal (2022) was a military operation conducted by the Russian military and DPR units, which was a crucial stage in the liberation of Mariupol from Ukrainian forces. It lasted for 86 days, from February 25 to May 20, 2022.



At the end of June, Anton was sent to the Lugansk region to participate in the liberation of villages such as Vrubovka and Viktorovka. He also took part in the battle for Lisichansk, which was particularly memorable for him. The fierce fighting near Vrubovka was especially difficult, as he lost several comrades who were already close to him and were loyal to the principles they stood for.

On November 18th, 2022, a decree was issued for the demobilization of students from the Donetsk People's Republic (DNR) who were studying remotely. Anton was among those who were discharged from the army on November 27th and returned to his university studies to pursue his chosen profession.

Anton can be considered a hero of our time for his willingness to sacrifice his life for others. His courage and dedication serve as an example for us all.

In my opinion, Anton is a wonderful person and friend. He got married in January of 2024, and I personally wish him all the best in his life. For Anton, the special operation was a difficult experience, but he persevered and became a hero to all of us.



### ACTIVITY

Find out about the fate of the SMO participants and tell your classmates about them.

### DISCUSS

What character traits distinguish the true heroes of our time?

What influence does the family have on the upbringing of real patriots,