Ideological influence in the building industry: Soviet experience (based on the data of post-war Siberia)

V N Vorontsov¹, A V Tetenkin² and I D Tretyakov³

¹Irkutsk State Transport University, 664074, Irkutsk, 15 Chernyshevsky Str., Russia.
²Irkutsk National Research Technical University, Department of History and Philosophy, 83 Lermontov St., Irkutsk, 664074, Russia
³Irkutsk National Research Technical University, Department of History and Philosophy, 83 Lermontov St., Irkutsk, 664074, Russia

E-mail: woronzow@mail.ru

Abstract. The article examines the ideological influence (party leadership) in the building industry in the post-war period using the material of Siberia. The review reveals a characterization of the role of the Communist Party in the USSR. Further, the applied methodology is disclosed and the historiographic situation is characterized. Playing a leading role through the system of state and public organizations, the Communist Party in the USSR united and directed their efforts towards a common goal, acting by methods of organizational and ideological educational work. Party monopoly in the interpretation of economic processes as a rule was more important than production realities. A detailed study of the Soviet experience is necessary to preserve historical memory and learn lessons from the pages of our history. The relationship between political events and economic indicators is traced.

1. Introduction

The history of our country in the XX century is inseparable from the activities of the communists - members of the Party ruled country from 1917 to 1991 as well as initiators, developers, leaders and executors of the World Communist (Red) project. Officially renaming themselves Communists in March 1918, they have consistently emphasized the synonym of the Bolsheviks for more than three decades.

The key definition describing the realities of the USSR is "Party leadership" both in general and in the branches of society and the national economy. Now the term appears logically and emotionally foreign, but for the recent past it was extremely organic. Consonant concepts are the "Political work" or "Party-political work" in labor collectives, in the Army, etc., "Political control" (as a statement of already achievements) or synonymous "ideological influence" (as declared efforts, but not yet results) [1]. We will prefer the latter term.

The All-Union Communist Party was the basis of the political system created by the Bolsheviks after the seizure of power in October 1917. The Party dominated the political hierarchy. By the mid-1920s the main administrative functions were transferred to the Party apparatus. It was the party that acted as the main initiator and leader of all political and ideological campaigns, economic and cultural projects in the USSR. It is necessary to emphasize the integrated nature of the Soviet administrative-command system.
Later, in 1967, this role was formulated as follows: "Exercising its leading role through the system of state and public organizations, the Party unites and directs their efforts towards a common goal, acting by its inherent methods of organizational and ideological and educational work" [2]

Using modern terminology, the key direction of the Communist Party's activity was the formulation of the "image of the future." Having formulated it and then repeatedly correcting it, harshly overthrowing the alternatives, the Bolsheviks, derived from the "future", commented on the present, made and explained current decisions. Accordingly, a huge role was played by changing rhetoric, argumentation, skilfully and purposefully constructed and supported myths. It is expedient to consider this ideological array as one of the fundamental elements of the Soviet administrative-command system.

The ruling Bolshevik Party has always emphasized its gravitation towards the methods of storm, attack, and accordingly prepared and ideologically trained the masses. This factor was decisive in the choosing of a particular line of political behavior by the Party bureaucracy. Violence was a common resource. Enemies were assigned at an enviable frequency. The dictatorship of the proletariat proclaimed the task of suppressing of the overthrown classes, their re-education and defined a new scale of social hierarchy with the appointment of social outcasts. Rhetoric ensured the irreversibility of the course, and alternatives were deliberately not considered. In a tactical sense, betting on the priority of control over material resources gave the Bolsheviks a significant superiority over opponents and adversaries, and provided more room for maneuver. Strategically, it pushed back the already hypothetical victory in economic competition with foreign capitalist encirclement. The short-term material losses of War Communism, and then collectivization, personifying payment for emergency and dictatorship, gave anti-Bolshevik propaganda a trump card and reduced the attractiveness of the communist model in the world.

In some cases, the inertia of the pre-revolutionary (tsarist) industrial, infrastructural and colonization (resettlement) backlogs was also manifested, which had military and geopolitical motives in the initial basis. In general, we are faced with an interdependent series of events, where there are much more political persistence and continuity than forced concessions and adjustments.

The continuity and purposefulness of the activities of the Bolsheviks in the economic sphere were manifested in the priority of the tasks of control and redistribution over ensuring the actual growth of production, which repeatedly (during the Civil War, during collectivization, in the form of "voluntarism") provoked economic decline and devastation. In other words, there are the primacy of political tasks, the secondary nature of production.

Public discontent was stopped by rhetorical, propaganda methods of distraction. Such practices have become a defining part of the Party, and then of the historical discourse, and one should not exaggerate the degree of its scientific character, logic, and consistency. Monopoly in the interpretation of economic processes was usually more important than production realities [3].

2. Materials and methods
The used methods cover three levels: general scientific, general historical and concrete historical. During the research, the following general scientific methods of cognition were used: induction and deduction, going from abstract to concrete, analysis and synthesis, description, measuring, explanation, analogy, comparison. All of them were used as concrete means of cognition. At the general scientific level, the leading methods were the methods of historism and objectiveness. It was tried to avoid the equation of the past and the future; the object was put into the historical context; special attention was paid to determining the cause-and-effect links of the events and processes. In the research, the following concrete historical methods were used: historical-genetic (as the basic one), historical-comparative and historical-systematic.

While working on this article, we tried to take into account an important remark by A.A. Svechin that strategy should avoid a premature transition from a form of thinking to a cruel channel of coined doctrine of rules, conclusions and conclusions [4]. The party program bound and binds the politician as much as the military strategist is his ultimate goal. Attention to immediate goals characterizes state strategy as a practical art. The politician must expect not only the ultimate ideal, but also take into
account the realities of its present. A substantive study of the mechanism for creating certain images in propaganda and their subsequent controlled correction opens up great opportunities for the researcher.

A substantive study of the organizational activities of the authorities and an assessment of their actions are an important research task. We emphasize that it is expedient and productive to consider it in the regional aspect, which allows us to trace in more detail and deeper both the general patterns and the specifics of the implementation of the center's decisions on the ground, and as a result, it is reasoned to show the deeply integrated nature of the Soviet social and political system.

Domestic historians have done a lot of work on the study of the mechanism of post-war stabilization of the Stalinist regime as well as the plot of "Winners, Power and Society" and the dynamics of power and public sentiments in the USSR after 1945 [5, 6] The hypotheses of foreign researchers, who analyzed as “political imperatives of Post-War Renaissance”) and the nature of “returning home "in the context of victory or defeat [7, 8].

A feature of the modern stage of historiography has become numerous attempts by foreign and some domestic researchers to select negative facts from the Soviet past and biased interpretations to politically and ideologically influence modern Russia to form the “image of the past and future” of our Fatherland that is most beneficial for external forces.

A detailed study of the Soviet experience is necessary to preserve historical memory and learn lessons from the pages of our history. It is reasonable to trace the relationship between political events and economic indicators.

3. Results
The building industry in the economy of the USSR has always received increased attention from the authorities, including Party bodies at all levels. As for the scale and pace of building in the Post-War period, it is difficult to overestimate it. The process of restoring of everything what completely destroyed during the War practically coincided with the process of increasing the volume of building of new facilities in all regions of the country.

It should be noted as an indisputable fact that the feat and heroism of the victorious people in the War found continuation in the feat and heroism of the people in peaceful renaissance, which laid the foundations of the country's economic, political and military might. Organization of building work from plans to turnkey commissioning, strict control over the process of building of various objects at all its stages were the main tasks of the Party bodies.

The second half of the 20th century became the time of rapid development of Siberia. At that time absolutely new industries came into being here. They are the basis of economic power of Russia nowadays and include oil, gas, aluminum, hydro-power, weapon industry (particularly nuclear weapons), diamond production, and many others [9].

Real industrial giants emerged in almost every industry in Siberia. These are the world famous Bratsk, Krasnoyarsk, Ust-Ilimsk, and Sayano-Shushinsk hydro-power stations, as well as Bratsk, Krasnoyarsk, Irkutsk, and Sayanogorsk aluminum plants, as well as West-Siberian metal-producing factory in Novokuznetsk, and Bratsk and Ust-Ilimsk timber-producing complexes, as well as Omsk and Tobolsk oil and chemical plants, and machine building giants of Novosibirsk and Krasnoyarsk, and oil and gas industries of West Siberia, as well as diamond-producing factories in Mirnyi and Udachnyi, and many, many others.

A lot of new cities and towns were built in Siberia: Angarsk, Bratsk, Lesosibirsk, Mirnyi, Nazarovno, Neryungry, Nizhnevartovsk, Strezhevoy, Tyinda, Ust-Ilimsk, Shelekhov and others.

Already in the 1980s Siberia’s share in the gross national output of the USSR exceeded 10%. The export of Siberia’s natural riches gave the USSR over 50% of currency influx. And today as well Siberia is one of the backbones of Russia’s economy and budget [10].

The adopted at the end of the 40s joint resolution of the Central Committee of the CPSU and the Government on a comprehensive plan for the development of Eastern Siberia was the initial document defining the prospects and main tasks for the building industry of the Irkutsk region. In a short time, it was necessary to exploit the natural resources such as minerals, forest and water resources of the region.
The construction of huge objects of non-ferrous metallurgy, chemical and petrochemical industries, timber industry complexes required the accelerated creating of energy facilities - hydroelectric and thermal power plants with corresponding power lines and communication lines, new roads, railways, vehicle, air, water and pipeline transport were needed.

The tasks associated with the employment of thousands of people arriving from all over the country, the creation of housing and other living conditions, the organization of food, trade and medical services were also inconceivable in complexity. It was necessary to build schools, kindergartens, cinemas, libraries, houses of culture, sports and physical culture complexes and other social and cultural facilities.

To successfully solve such large-scale tasks, it was required to organize a well-functioning vertical of management of all building affairs. As part of the regional Party Committee, three leading departments directly dealt with the entire range of these problems - organizational. ideological and socio-economic. (The departments are listed in order of importance, although in practice the ideological department was always at the end of this list, in local Party Committees the first secretary was engaged in general management, the second secretary - in industry, building and related industries, and the secretary - in ideology, and an underestimation of this direction of Party work was even expressed in the fact that it was dumped on fragile women's shoulders).

The organizational department was engaged in the selection and placement of personnel in all sectors of the Party, Soviet, economic and ideological work. Its employees oversaw the plenary sessions, meetings of the Party and economic activists, took part in the preparation of the most important decisions and controlled over their implementation. The instructors of the organizational department were in reserve for the first and second secretaries of city and district Party committees. Employees of the socio-economic department worked with the heads of enterprises in all industries, transport and agriculture including the building industry. The instructors of this department most often left for the posts of Soviet and economic leaders. The ideological department oversaw all educational units, various advanced training courses, the political education system, the society “Knowledge”, public and religious organizations, cultural and sports institutions, etc. The instructors of this department were in reserve as secretaries of city and district Party committees. It is important to note the experience, high professionalism and business qualities of the employees of the regional committee.

The leading role in the management of all building activities was played by the Vostoksibstroy head office. A number of building trusts were subordinate to it, such as "Irkutskpromstroy", "Irkutskzhilstroy", "Stroymekhanizatsiya" trust, "House-building plant" and others. The trusts included building departments with mobile mechanized columns (PMK), the Vostoksibtransstroy administration included building and assembly trains (SMP). The Irkutskselstroy trust, LenaBAMstroy, and others stood apart. It is appropriate here to emphasize the merits of the builders of these units, who with honor endured incredible difficulties, often legendary objects, dams of hydroelectric power stations, entire cities and towns, roads, bridges and tunnels, railway stations and power lines were erected on a "bare" site. Household disorder, supply interruptions, not so high salaries, etc. led to high staff turnover. In some divisions it reached 80% and more, but no difficulties could break the spirit and enthusiasm of the builders. From among those who passed all the tests, a number of foremen and foremost workers received the title of Hero of Socialist Labor, hundreds and thousands of builders were awarded orders and medals. As for Party officers, they were rarely awarded; of the first secretaries, only one received the title of Hero of Socialist Labor - the first secretary of the Ust-Kut City Party Committee for the construction of the BAM.

The development of all sectors of the country's economy, the emergence of new directions in economic activity, comprehensive and large-scale transformations in all spheres of social life, new technologies and new equipment required accelerated training and new personnel, the expansion of scientific research, and the improvement of the entire education and training system. The lack of engineering and technical personnel was especially acute. Under these conditions, decisions were made in a timely manner on the building of a campus and an academic town.

Special building departments "Vuzstroy" and "Akademstroy" were created for the immediate implementation of these decisions. It is appropriate to note here the outstanding role of Anatoly
Andreevich Igoshin, who prudently refused the authorities' generous offer to build the main building of a higher educational institution in the city center (in the area of the current Angara hotel), but insisted on the place where it is now located. Under him, the building of a campus unprecedented in scale and pace for the city began. At the same time, the main academic building and student dormitories, and housing for teachers and university staff, and a kitchen factory, and a stadium, and much more were erected. Under Igoshin A.A. the Institute acquired the status of a Polytechnic, under it practically every year new areas of training of specialists were opened, new departments and faculties were created. He and his closest assistants in the person of the secretary of the Party Committee, front-line soldier Chuprov Vitaly Mironovich and the head of the Trade Union Committee, front-line soldier Poloz Pyotr Leontyevich, practically around the clock, monitored the progress of the building of the campus and made decisions to eliminate emerging problems. Under their leadership, the Polytechnic Institute staff worked as a single well-coordinated mechanism, under them the initiatives of students and employees of the institute were supported.

By the way, few people remember that it was precisely the students of the Polytechnic who, when the main building of the educational institution was erected on Lermontov Street, built tram lines to it from the railway station. The students themselves called this construction "the road of life", since the only bus route No. 3 could not cope with the passenger flow, most of them traveled to the institute on foot from the railway station through the Zvezdochka grove. Until recently, on the concrete supports of the tram line, one could see inscriptions with the names of the training student groups that built this particular section of the track [11].

The first student teams of the Polytechnic Institute worked at the building sites of big chemistry (1964), in the summer of 1965 they participated in the completion of the building of the Abakan-Taishet highway, showing an exemplary work organization, helped the builders to commission this important highway ahead of schedule.

In 1966, under the leadership of V.G. Temnikov, a combined student detachment of five faculties of the Institute, numbering 300 people, was created, which was sent to the All-Union Exemplary Comsomol Building Site "Khrebtovaya - Ust'Ilimsk". Enrollment in the detachment took place after a tough competitive selection (good study, healthy body and mind, the presence of the qualities necessary to participate in sports events and amateur performances).

It is necessary to imagine the amount of planned work and the conditions in which the students had to work: in the thick of the deep taiga, where there are no roads or villages, only bear paths, swamps with a huge number of mosquitoes and midges, from which it is impossible to escape without mosquito nets. It was necessary to cut a clearing on a 15-kilometer section 120 m wide, clearing it for the passage of a mechanized column. Polytechnic students honorably coped with the tasks assigned to the detachment, completed and exceeded the scope of work.

Perhaps the most important object in the building of the Khrebtovaya - Ust-Ilimsk railroad in 1967 was a secondary school for 320 purples in the village of Novaya Igirma. To work on the construction of this facility was destined to one of the first polytechnics student building troops - the detachment of the Faculty of Civil Engineering and its commander V. Temnikov. In that time the name of the unit "SNIP" was born from the abbreviation of the collection of building codes and regulations, well-known to all members of the student building detachments, only the students themselves deciphered it differently: "Build reliably and quickly" [11].

4. Conclusion

Soviet people were guaranteed to be provided with the minimum necessities of life. Free medical care, free education, children's summer camps, sanatorium and resort vouchers have become almost universal property. Despite the fact that the material culture of Soviet society was significantly inferior in quantity and quality to the West, enormous successes were achieved in Soviet society, unprecedented in Russian history. On the other hand, the huge, hypertrophied, ineffective industry of the Soviet economy gave rise to a host of environmental problems. In a number of cases, the state allowed, in limited forms,
business-like activities in which business relations were in the first place. Such, for example, were gold mining artels or student building teams.

The most important aspect of the life of Soviet civilization was the ideological sphere. From the very beginning, the new society was built on the basis of the existing idea of communism. Any major action taken by the authorities had its own ideological meaning: everything was justified by the construction and defense of a communist (socialist) society. The ideological sphere was of fundamental importance: having mastered the minds of the Soviet people, it had to educate a "new man" of a new civilization.

For the education of the Soviet young generation, the best achievements of not only Russian art, but also the world humanistic culture were attracted. Education included not only political loyalty, but also the best, highly moral human qualities: honesty, nobility, courage, kindness, collectivism [12, 13].

In today's difficult conditions, albeit in a modified form, the activity of student building teams in many universities in Russia has not stopped. However, the leading place is occupied by detachments of a non-building profile, their largest number belongs to pedagogical detachments, but the basic principles of their formation and activity have been preserved. In recognition of the significance and role of the SSO (SBT) in the past, the successes and achievements of student teams in modern Russia in 2015, by the Presidential Decree on February 17, a public holiday "Day of Russian student teams" was established. At the all-Russian and regional levels, problems related to the activities of student teams are discussed, ways of solving them are considered, working conditions and job quotas are negotiated, etc. This instructive management experience deserves further reflection in the interests of practical use [14].

References
[1] Vorontsov V N and Sukhanova M S 2019 Party and political work in the Soviet armed forces in 1945–1953 (on the materials of Eastern Siberia and Mongolia) Journal of the Laboratory of Ancient Technologies 15(3) pp 233–242
[2] 1967 50 years of the Great October Socialist Revolution The ceremonial meeting of the Central Committee of the CPSU, the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, the Supreme Soviet of the RSFSR
[3] Baksheev A I 2020 NEP in Siberia. Atmosphere and logic of war
[4] Svechin A A 1927 Strategy
[5] Pyzhikov A V and Danilov A A 2002 The birth of a superpower 1945–1953
[6] Pikhoya R G 2009 Under the sign of Stalin
[7] Fil’tser D 2011 Soviet workers and late Stalinism: the working class and the restoration of the Stalinist system after the Second World War
[8] Nekrasov V L 2017 New Historical Bulletin Soviet economic reformism of the epoch of N. S. Khrushchev: authoritarian reformer, party-state system and academic community 4(54) pp 71-91
[9] Shevelkov A I 2014 Archivist's Herald The financial policy of the Soviet leadership in respect of the non-chernozem zone of the RSFSR in the 2nd half of the 20th century 4 pp 16-168
[10] Temnikov V G and Tretyakov I D 2018 Student building brigades: history and perspectives. Journal of Ancient Technology Laboratory 14(3) pp 227–238
[11] Tetenkin A V 2003 Soviet Culture Tetenkin A V Culturology pp 76–84
[12] Tretyakov I D and Shaforostov A I 2019 Historical perspective of the ideas of Communism Journal of Ancient Technology Laboratory 15(1) pp 267–277
[13] Nechaev A S, Ognev D V and Antipina O V 2017 Innovation risks: challenges and prospects Advances in Economics, Business and Management Research. Proceedings of the International Conference on Trends of Technologies and Innovations in Economic and Social Studies 2017 38
[14] 1988 Revolutionary movement in military districts March 1917-March 1918
[15] Polovtsov P A 1999 Days of the Eclipse: Notes of the Commander-in-Chief of the Petrograd Military District in 1917
[16] Larina O P and Khalabuda E I 2019 Accident prevention during construction and installation
works at height Proceedings of Universities. Investment. Construction. Real estate 9(4) pp 734–741

[17] Baranova A A and Bobrova A A 2019 Dispersed reinforcement of cellular and fine-grained concrete based on silica fume Proceedings of Universities. Investment. Construction. Real estate 9(4) pp 694–703

[18] 1925 Russia in the World War 1914-1918

[19] Vinogradov S E 1999 The last giants of the Russian Imperial Fleet