Social control of food supply for Russian military personnel

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Abstract. The scientific article presents a theoretical and methodological substantiation of the problem of social control of food supply for military personnel, suggests ways to improve the interaction of military organizations with the structures of the agro-industrial complex. It has been substantiated that the most important indicators of social control are embedded in the self-assessments of servicemen in terms of the following parameters: 1) verification of compliance with the norms, rules and procedures of servicemen's activities; 2) compliance with the norms, rules and procedures for the provision of military personnel, including food. It is proved that in modern conditions the current system of social control cannot eliminate the manifestation of negative tendencies in the system of relations of a modern military collective. The necessity is substantiated and the directions of improving the food supply system for military personnel are presented: 1) the formation of a comprehensive model of social control of food supply for military units (integration of external, internal, self-controlling substructures of control); 2) strengthening the existing model of supplying an additional component of proactive food support for military personnel, which determines the storage of food stocks and mechanisms for effective interaction with the structures of the agro-industrial complex in conditions of a destabilizing situation, local conflict, and peacekeeping operations.

1 Introduction (research problem)

The formation of a social state in Russia leads to an increase in the mutual responsibility of society, the state, agrarian and industrial organizations, military collectives, and citizens. Various organizations of Russia are involved in the practice of social control and

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management. The idea expressed by the President of the Russian Federation V.V. Putin, about the need to support the desire of citizens, professional communities, political parties to carry out controlling actions, “to participate in the life of the country” [1]. The presented trend inevitably presupposes the development of the institution of social control as a whole, as well as social control of military collectives, optimization of the practices of regulating relations between military organizations, the agro-industrial complex, agricultural organizations and industries designed to provide military units with food. Under the new conditions, the process of implementing social control in the food supply system of Russian military personnel is being transformed. Each soldier, each military collective takes on a certain list of responsibilities. At the same time, they have the right to demand not only from the state, but also from representatives of the agro-industrial complex, the necessary level of food security, the fulfillment of the goals set by society through real practices of participation in social control. In addition to the generally accepted principles of state control over the activities of military collectives, mechanisms of reverse control actions by individual social groups are added.

Thus, it is the complex system of social control in the new conditions that is designed to ensure, on the one hand, the democratization of civil-military relations, on the other hand, to increase the social responsibility of the agro-industrial complex to military collectives, and on the third, to ensure the growth of the social efficiency of the professional activities of military personnel.

2 Materials and methods

In the process of research, a sociocultural approach was used [2]. When identifying the essential characteristics and indicators of assessing social control, a systematic analysis of theoretical developments was carried out. The study of the practices of social control of the food supply of Russian military personnel was carried out on the basis of the analysis of data from the sociological survey "Social control in the modern military collective". The survey was conducted by I.A. Smirnov in February 2020. 550 servicemen were interviewed. The survey was conducted in military units of Bogorodsk, Nizhny Novgorod region (197 people - 35.8%), Saratov (172 people - 31.3%), Kazan (181 people - 32.9%) ... Among the respondents: 103 people (18.7%) - officers, 54 people (9.8%) - warrant officers, 94 people (17.1%) - sergeants, 299 people (54.4%) - soldiers. The sample is random. The presence of a general certainty in the composition of the general population, the presence of an alphabetical list of the composition of military personnel of the surveyed military units, determined the possibility of using a simple random sample. A step-by-step selection from the general ordered alphabetical list of the military personnel was applied.

The theoretical basis of the research includes developments on the trends of social control as a factor in preventing social conflicts at the micro level [3]. Traditionally, researchers consider social control at the level of an individual organization [4], substantiate its manifestation in the form of a system of social processes aimed at ensuring social and economic conditions for effective labor implementation of personnel within the framework of pre-developed and approved internal organizational rules and norms [5]. The actions of an employee of any organization should be controlled not only by representatives of the administration [6], but also by their own labor groups [7].

In the context of military sociology, it is proved that the actors that regulate and also evaluate the labor actions of military personnel determine the service and labor stability, the level and nature of food supply. At the same time, control ensures the renewal of the processes of service interaction of servicemen, the military administration, the effectiveness of the interaction of the military organization with the external socio-economic environment [8]. In this regard, it can be stated that the social control of the military

collective is the integration of the actions of the state, civil society (public organizations) and the military administration. Social control provides not only timely assessment and verification [9, p. 19], but also social protection [3], effective food provision, as well as stimulating or sanctioning impact on labor actors, the external environment of the organization in order to maintain the necessary socially important and significant behavioral patterns. It is easy to see that in modern interpretations, social control is a system of interdependent as well as interdependent actions and processes that have a dual manifestation. On the one hand, it includes external control mechanisms, processes aimed at assessing and verifying compliance practices, as well as the implementation of personal and organizational behavior, compliance with regulations, laws and regulations, government requirements, expectations of society and government agencies [10]. On the other hand, at the level of a separate military collective, social control manifests itself as an externally organizational process [11]. The latter includes not only diagnostics, verification of the practices of fulfilling food supply for Russian servicemen, formal organizational requirements, rules, norms of activity and behavior of the organizational structures that provide it, but also stimulation, sanctions influence of the administration aimed at maintaining the necessary and acceptable practices of external interaction of the administration parts.

In conditions when the Ministry of Defense, in fact, fully transferred the functions of food supply to military units, the organization of meals for Russian military personnel under the jurisdiction of external agrarian and industrial organizations (introduction of outsourcing), the importance of social control increases [12]. In the new conditions, it is important not only to clarify the assessment by the military personnel of the new food supply system, but also to consider their assessments regarding the organization of this process in conditions of exacerbation of local conflicts, the implementation of peacekeeping operations on the territory of the Russian Federation.

Thus, social control in a military collective is a systemic integration, on the one hand, of external control mechanisms (state, civil and administrative technologies that provide diagnostics, verification, external motivation aimed at maintaining the necessary and significant models of behavior of military personnel in general and individual individuals in particular), on the other - intra-organizational mechanisms for monitoring the provision of military units (including food supply). It is important to note that the internal organizational control system of the military collective embodies the practice of self-assessment and self-control. The latter include self-assessment, as well as self-examination of the implementation and observance of the rules, norms of organizing food supply, the effectiveness of interaction between the military unit and organizations of the agrarian food complex. The most important indicators of social control of food supply are laid down in the self-assessments of servicemen in terms of the following parameters: 1) verification of compliance with the norms, rules and procedures of the activities of servicemen; 2) compliance with the norms, rules and procedures for the provision of military personnel, including food.

We use these indicators to directly assess social control in a modern military collective.

3 Results and discussion

Let us consider the manifestation of the practice of social control in the assessments of the military personnel of the Russian regions. Let us analyze the data of the sociological survey "Social control in the modern military collective" N = 550.

The study showed that servicemen associate social control with checking compliance with norms, rules and procedures in both the external and internal segments of the military organization.

Within the framework of internal organizational control, the emphasis is on the observance of military discipline by servicemen. 51% of servicemen associate internal social control in a military collective primarily with the diagnosis of practices of compliance with organizational rules, norms, and regulations in the process of military service. 34% of respondents define the implementation of internal social control by the end result - encouragement or punishment when summing up the results of inspections. The majority of respondents emphasize that the main function of internal social control in a modern military collective is to identify shortcomings in the military service system and diagnose problems of labor interaction between servicemen. Here contradictions are viewed as a result of violation of the charter, legislative documents, the formation of deviant practices in the performance of military professional duties. 71% of the respondents believe that special attention in carrying out internal social control should be paid to the system of direct service and labor activity. Only 14% of servicemen believe that the domestic sphere is also important in the list of objects of social control. It should be noted that 12% of servicemen emphasize the need for active control activities in the implementation of economic and social support programs, as well as protection of family members of subjects of military collectives. The latter do not exclude from the system of objects of external social control food supply, everyday life, as well as the behavior of family members of military personnel. Food provision is gradually becoming the basic object of external social control of military personnel.

Thus, according to the analyzed sociological survey, the overwhelming majority of servicemen (over 73%) believe that the food supply of servicemen as a result of the transition to the outsourcing system has significantly improved. On the one hand, the quality of food supply has improved (noted by 69% of respondents), on the other hand, the quality of prepared food has increased, the composition and range of cooking has increased (52% of servicemen note), the organizational situation has improved, the aesthetic component of food intake by servicemen has increased. More than half of the servicemen note that the new food supply system contributes to an increase in the quality of incoming food products. Here, food products are purchased by intermediaries (co-executors) for a certain weekly consumption recommended and approved by the administration (required menu) from local representatives of the agro-industrial complex. As a rule, these purchases are of impeccable quality. The servicemen note that under the new conditions the quality of food consumption is increasing, there is practically no multiple duplication and repetition of the offered dishes. In this case, meat products are processed and prepared, as a rule, from freshly frozen products. Meanwhile, at present, about a third of servicemen believe that in modern conditions it is acceptable to partially violate the rules, norms, and administrative requirements in the process of providing food for servicemen.

Thus, the data of the sociological survey show that in peacetime, the newly introduced technologies (outsourcing) of food supply for military personnel are generally effective. The introduction of the new system made it possible to improve the quality of food supply for military units in peacetime without a significant update of the modern system of interaction between the military organization and the structures of the agro-industrial complex.

4 Conclusions

Thus, the basic object of social control in the military collective is still service and labor activity, the activity of the leadership of military collectives. The most important additional object of external social control is food supply for servicemen. In the conditions of modern Russia, the organization of food supplies is dealt with by organizational structures that integrate the needs of the military organization and the agrarian complex. Already in 2011,

an agreement was signed with Voentorg OJSC for the provision of food supplies, organization of catering and service for military personnel. Within the framework of this contract, the contractor engages co-executors of intermediaries and ensures interaction of military units and structures of the agro-industrial complex. Meanwhile, the processes of checking socio-economic efficiency are still carried out in an administrative way. The general results of these checks are only brought to the consciousness of members of military collectives. The military collective itself does not participate in the social control of food supply. Control is exercised by disparate administrative subjects of the external and internal social environment of the military collective. This process is not connected and not interdependent with each other, and sometimes it is a multidirectional action. There are no general criteria for social control, strategies that determine its gradual improvement. As a result, within the framework of service and labor activities, practices of violation of the norms of food supply for servicemen are still manifested. At the same time, about a third (31%) of servicemen believe that the introduced food supply system will be completely ineffective in conditions of exacerbation of local conflicts, the implementation of peacekeeping operations on the territory of the Russian Federation.

The current system of external social control over the food supply of servicemen cannot eliminate the manifestation of negative tendencies in the system of relations between the modern military unit and the structures of the agro-industrial complex under conditions of exacerbation of local conflicts, the implementation of peacekeeping operations on the territory of the Russian Federation. In fact, the existing model of food supply for military units will not allow effectively realizing its mission - food supply of military structures under any changes and conditions of the external social environment, since it does not allow food supply of military personnel in the event of a significant increase in social tension and exacerbation of local conflicts.

Servicemen share the opinion that it is necessary to improve the food supply system for servicemen through the formation of its dual model. Provisionally suggested improvements can be grouped into two interrelated and interdependent groups.

First. Formation of a comprehensive model of social control of food supply for military collectives (integration of external, intra-organizational, self-controlling substructures of control). More than half (53%) of the surveyed servicemen suggested introducing a comprehensive system of social control. On the one hand, it is important to fundamentally expand the composition of the subjects of this social control: 1) actively involve in self-control the direct social groups of servicemen (34% of the respondents suggested that social groups and specific servicemen be maximally involved in the implementation of control functions); 2) partially open access to control by the population, the media, public organizations (29% of servicemen were asked to activate additional subjects of external control in the person of the population, the media, public organizations). On the other hand, it is important to tighten administrative control: 1) strengthen external and internal control over the activities of food supply entities (26% of actors propose strengthening general administrative control over the activities of these entities, 11% determine the need to expand the system of control norms); 2) strengthening of legal control over the activities of the administration and individual units of military personnel (22% of military personnel insist on strengthening prosecutorial supervision and external control).

Second. Strengthening the existing model with additional components of proactive (promising) food supply for servicemen (the idea is supported by 47% of the surveyed servicemen). It is important to create an additional system of rapid food supply for the military unit, capable of carrying out its own mission in extreme conditions, without complex restructuring and renovation, of providing food for military units under any conditions, with any complexity of the situation, optimally and effectively. It is advisable, in addition to the existing food supply system, to develop and, in the future, introduce a

food storage system (implementation of optimal storage and storage of an emergency food supply). It is important to create a complex of food storage warehouses near military units, military districts, polygon structures, large iron points. The latter will make it possible to guarantee the optimal food security of the military units of Russia in the event of a destabilization of the situation, a local conflict, or military operations.

Acknowledgements

The article was prepared within the framework of the public assignment of the Saratov Military Order of Zhukov of the Red Banner Institute of the National Guard Troops of the Russian Federation on topic No. 0328-2019-0005.

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