DOCTORS BADGE FOR THE ABYSSINIAN CAMPAIGN 1895-96

Badge in silver. A Star of David with a red enamelled red cross in the center crowned by the Abyssinian coat-of-arms (a lion with a flag on red ground). The shield is surrounded by three Abyssinian crown.

According to the information available, this badge was given to twelve doctors, who accompanied the Russian Ambulance Corps to Abyssinia in 1895-96.

Size: at height 56 mm.
200TH CRONSTADTSKIJ (CRONSTADT) INFANTRY REGIMENT

Badge. Silver wreath of laurel and oak branches, interwoven with blue ribbons. Wreath topped by the Imperial Crown. In the center of the wreath a shield, divided into two sections with silver borders. In the left part on blue-enamelled ground a light-house, in the right part on red-enamelled ground a cauldron. In the center at the base in silver the number "200".

Size: at height 54 mm.
In the collection may be found some items of the Provisional Russian government after 1917.

Among the weapons, the St. George and St. Anne weapons form a special part of the imperial decorations. There are one naval sword and two naval dirks of the Order of St. George, the last two with the George-miniature in copper as a result of the lack of proper metals during World War I. There is also a St. Anne sword of the Chevalier Guards, and a combined Golden Sword (St. George) and St. Anne, IV Class.

The awarding with golden swords began during the reign of Catherine II. They were included in the Russian Orders by Alexander I in 1807 as decorations.

OTHER SOCIETIES - OTHER PUBLICATIONS

WORLD WAR ENTHUSIAST

Mr. Ray Merriam, editor of World War Enthusiast has sent me a copy of Vol. 1 No. 2 (Mar-Apr 1974) issue of this publication. It is on the same format and size as the MEDAL COLLECTOR, but employs the continuing pages from the first issue onwards. Contents of this issue are as follows: Eighth Air Force Tactical Development / Russian Command Echelons / Tiger I Hosho / Luftwaffe Edged Weapons / He Saw Hitler Rise to Power / No. 69 Grenade / 75mm Pack Howitzer (pictorial) / An Os2U gets a Zero! / followed by regular columns, for the book collector, modeler, war-gammer, catalogues received, classified ads, pen pals, and a review of other societies. While this issue contained nothing about medals or decorations it should be no time at all before they make their appearance in this publication which is the era of WWII. Interested parties may subscribe to this bi-monthly which is available from GRAPHICS HOUSE LTD, 218 Beech, Bennington, VT 05201. Sub. rates, 1 year $5.00, 2 years $9.00, 3 years $12.50.

THE NAVAL HISTORICAL FOUNDATION - is a non-profit organization in the District of Columbia (chartered in 1926). Its main objective is to collect and preserve documents, papers and artifacts relating to the history of the U.S. Navy, the U.S. Marine Corps, and Merchant Marine, to make them available for use by historians and researchers interested in stimulating and furthering the knowledge of Naval History, customs and traditions, and to further an appreciation of the importance of sea and air power to the security of our country.

The Foundation publishes annually two pamphlets and two newsletters on topics in Naval History. They are sent without charge to members and are for sale to non-members.

Active Membership is $5.00 Annually - Mail address NAVAL HISTORICAL FOUNDATION, Building 220, Room 218 Washington Navy Yard, Washington, D.C. 20390

AMERICAN REGIMENTAL MEDALS AND UNIT AWARDS

With the exception of maybe a few articles written and scattered throughout various periodicals and at various times nothing definitive has ever been written on American regimental and unit awards from the days of the early militia companies which awarded medals for "soldierly appearance" to "shooting awards" and "parade awards". Since the federal awards have been covered many times, and the state, county, and municipal awards are coming into their own, it is time to consider the unit awards. Perhaps it will only be a listing or a vague reference to an award, but at least it can start somewhere. I would like to be the clearing-house for such a listing which will be published in THE MEDAL COLLECTOR in order to seek out more information and perhaps generate an interest in them.

Frederic von Allendorfer