

LATEST NEWS # 368, September 11, 2006

The following news concerns Russia.

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## Bible helps soldiers to keep the peace

**RUSSIA** — “Reading the Bible will ensure that your soldiers can discern good from evil.” This is the message that Father Alexander Borisov, President of the Bible Society in Russia, gave to senior officers of the Internal Forces’ Special Operations Division recently.

Father Borisov and Bible Society Executive Director Anatoly Rudenko launched the *Bible for the Russian Military* project with a visit on August 24 to the Moscow headquarters of the Internal Forces’ Special Operations Division, who are responsible for counter-terrorism and public order. Here they met senior officers responsible for training young soldiers and handed over 18 sets of biblical literature: one for each of the 16 units of the division and two for the Russian Orthodox churches that operate within the headquarters.

After reading from chapter 13 of Paul’s Letter to the Romans, Father Borisov pointed out that the members of the Internal Forces have a special role as peacekeepers and that, to carry out this role effectively, they must develop a strong sense of morality. “The Bible is the source of this knowledge,” he said.

Major-General Victor Scryabin also addressed the senior officers, reminding them of the value of Christian traditions as a foundation for their teaching and for fostering good relations between officers and young soldiers, while Mr Rudenko highlighted the fact that both the Bible Society and the Internal Forces have their origins in the early nineteenth century.

As the meeting came to an end, the officers expressed their gratitude to the Bible Society for its contribution to the moral education of young soldiers and presented gifts of certificates and pennants.

For an earlier report on the Bible Society in Russia’s ministry to soldiers, see World Report 403/16. (288 words – RUSSIA.11.08.06)

*Photos (Bible Society in Russia):*

*RUS06DJ-49: Father Alexander Borisov, President of the Bible Society in Russia, handing over a set of biblical literature at the headquarters of the Internal Forces’ Special Operations Division in*



*Moscow. Bible Society staff visited here on August 24, 2006, as part of the Bible for the Russian Military project.*

*RUS06DJ-50: From left to right: Father Alexander Borisov, President of the Bible Society in Russia, Major-General Victor Scryabin, Anatoly Rudenko, Executive Director of the Bible Society in Russia, the Rev Alexei Borshev and Bible Society driver Dmitrii Morozov outside the headquarters of the Internal Forces' Special Operations Division in Moscow. Bible Society staff visited here on August 24, 2006, as part of the Bible for the Russian Military project.*

*RUS06DJ-47: Anatoly Rudenko, Executive Director of the Bible Society in Russia, showing Scripture products to staff and chaplains at the headquarters of the Internal Forces' Special Operations Division in Moscow. Bible Society staff visited here on August 24, 2006, as part of the Bible for the Russian Military project.*

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