

**COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF THE MILITARY OATH TEXTS  
(THE CASE OF THE US RANGERS AND SPECIAL FORCES SCOUTS  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS)**

**Introduction.** Currently, as geopolitical tensions advance, the problem of international military cooperation is becoming increasingly important and as a result, militarization of the society is growing. Therefore, the state pays special attention to improving the combat readiness and defense potential of the army.

To carry out effective cooperation in the military sphere, it is necessary to study not only the characteristics of weapons, strategy and tactics of certain units of the armed forces of a certain state, but also adequately understand the ideology that underlies their work.

**Main part.** Military oath is the cornerstone of the ideology of military service in any country. According to the accepted definition, the military oath is a ceremonial solemn oath given by each citizen when called for military service in the armed forces of the state. Military oaths have existed in the armed forces of most countries in the world since ancient times. In various countries it has a specific content, traditions and ceremonies for its adoption, depending on the historical traditions and customs of people, armed forces and the essence of the state system [2].

The relevance and novelty of this study is that we offer to make a comparative analysis of the text of the military oath in similar units of US Army and Armed Forces the Republic of Belarus.

We offer to compare the text of the oath of the 75th Parachute Regiment, special mission unit of US Army, also known as Rangers, and the text of the oath Special Operations Forces of the Republic of Belarus.

The United States Army Rangers is an elite military unit of the United States Army manned by soldiers that graduate from the U.S. Army Ranger School and carry out special missions.

The 75th Ranger Regiment is an elite airborne light infantry combat formation within the United States Army Special Operations Command (USASOC).

Special Forces of Belarus is a highly mobile combat arm of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Belarus. Their main tasks are counter-sabotage, intelligence, conducting of various tasks by special methods in order to stop the armed conflict towards the Republic of Belarus. It is one of the key elements of strategic deterrence.

In the tables below we offer to consider the original and translated versions of both texts.

T a b l e 1 — The oath of the Special Operations forces of the Republic of Belarus

Russian variant	Translation into English
<p>КЛЯНЕМСЯ ОТНЫНЕ И НАВСЕГДА:</p> <p>1. Быть верным своему Отечеству, воинскому долгу, Военной присяге и священному братству армейского спецназа. КЛЯНЕМСЯ!</p> <p>2. Чтить и уважать своих командиров и товарищей, всегда и словом, и делом поддерживать их, заботиться о них, как о самом себе, никогда не бросать их в беде и на поле боя. КЛЯНЕМСЯ!</p> <p>3. Приложить все свои силы и старания, чтобы овладеть знаниями и умениями, необходимыми разведчику спецназа, стремиться достигнуть высшей славы спецназовца — Доблести и Мастерства. КЛЯНЕМСЯ!</p> <p>4. Прислушиваться к советам старших — офицеров и ветеранов спецназа, хранителей спецназовской чести. КЛЯНЕМСЯ!</p> <p>5. Выполнять приказы и поручения любой ценой, проявляя при этом смекалку, смелость и решительность. КЛЯНЕМСЯ!</p> <p>6. Дорожить своей честью и честью своих товарищей, не допускать ее попраiania кем бы то ни было. КЛЯНЕМСЯ!</p>	<p>WE SWEAR NOW AND FOREVER:</p> <p>To be faithful to our homeland, military duty, military oath and sacred brotherhood of the Army Special Forces. WE SWEAR!</p> <p>To honor and respect our commanders and comrades, and always in word and deed support them, care about them as about ourselves, never let them down, and on the battlefield. WE SWEAR!</p> <p>To honor and respect our commanders and comrades, and always in word and deed support them, care about them as about ourselves, never let them down, and on the battlefield. WE SWEAR!</p> <p>To follow the advice of the senior — officers and special forces veterans, custodians of Special Forces honor. WE SWEAR!</p> <p>To carry out the orders and instructions at all costs, while exercising ingenuity, courage and determination. WE SWEAR!</p> <p>To value our honor and that of our comrades, to prevent its violation by anyone else. WE SWEAR!</p>

Completion of table 1

<p>7. Свято чтить традиции, кодекс чести и девиз спецназа «В любом месте, в любое время, любые задачи!», где бы ни находился — до своего последнего вздоха помнить о них.</p>	<p>To hallow traditions, honor code and the Special Forces motto “In any place, at any time, any tasks!” wherever should we happen to be and remember them till the last breath.</p>
<p>КЛЯНЕМСЯ!</p>	<p>WE SWEAR!</p>
<p>8. Если же я нарушу эту клятву, пусть неизгладимый позор и презрение лягут на мою голову, и стану я достоин всеобщего презрения.</p>	<p>If I violate this oath, let an indelible shame and contempt fall on my head and let I be punished with ignominy.</p>
<p>КЛЯНЕМСЯ!</p>	<p>WE SWEAR!</p>
<p>КЛЯНЕМСЯ!</p>	<p>WE SWEAR!</p>
<p>КЛЯНЕМСЯ!</p>	<p>WE SWEAR!</p>

Table 2 — The oath of the American Rangers

English variant	Translation into Russian
<p><b>1.</b> Recognizing that I volunteered as a Ranger, fully knowing the hazards of my chosen profession, I will always endeavor to uphold the prestige, honor, and high esprit de corps of my Ranger Regiment.</p>	<p>Зная, что я рейнджер, полностью понимая опасности выбранной профессии, я буду всегда стремиться поддерживать престиж, честь и высокий боевой дух рейнджеров.</p>
<p><b>2.</b> Acknowledging the fact that a Ranger is a more elite soldier who arrives at the cutting edge of battle by land, sea, or air, I accept the fact that as a Ranger my country expects me to move further, faster, and fight harder than any other soldier.</p>	<p>Понимая тот факт, что рейнджер — это элитный солдат, который прибывает в решающий момент сражения по земле, морю или воздуху, я знаю, что моя страна требует от меня, как от рейнджера, идти дальше, быстрее и сражаться более упорно, чем остальные солдаты.</p>
<p><b>3.</b> Never shall I fail my comrades. I will always keep myself mentally alert, physically strong, and morally straight and I will shoulder more than my share of the task whatever it may be, one hundred percent and then some.</p>	<p>Я никогда не брошу своих товарищей, всегда буду бдительным, физически сильным и морально стойким и буду выполнять не только свою часть боевой задачи, где бы она ни возникла, но и всю её и даже больше.</p>
<p><b>4.</b> Gallantly will I show the world that I am a specially selected and well trained soldier. My courtesy to superior officers, neatness of dress, and care of equipment shall set the example for others to follow.</p>	<p>Я продемонстрирую всему миру, что я специально отобранный и хорошо подготовленный солдат. Моя вежливость к старшим офицерам, аккуратность в одежде, исправность оружия будут служить другим примером для подражания.</p>
<p><b>5.</b> Energetically will I meet the enemies of my country. I shall defeat them on the field of battle for I am better trained and will fight with all my might. Surrender is not a Ranger word. I will never leave a fallen comrade to fall into the hands of the enemy and under no circumstances will I ever embarrass my country.</p>	<p>Если я встречу врагов моей страны, я уничтожу их на поле боя, потому что я лучше подготовлен, и буду сражаться со всей возможностью. Сдача в плен — это слово не для рейнджеров. Я никогда не позволю своим павшим товарищам попасть в руки врага и ни при каких обстоятельствах никогда не опозорю свою страну.</p>
<p><b>6.</b> Readily will I display the intestinal fortitude required to fight on to the Ranger objective and complete the mission, though I be the lone survivor.</p>	<p>Я с готовностью продемонстрирую подлинное мужество в бою и выполню задачу, даже если я буду единственным, кто остался в живых.</p>
<p>Rangers, lead the way</p>	<p>Рейнджеры всегда впереди</p>

The structure of the texts differs. The oath of Rangers is an acrostic, where each part starts with a different letter, forming the word “RANGER”. Determination is expressed with the help of the modal verbs *shall* and *will* and the inverted word order in parts 3, 4, 5 and 6 of the text. The sentences are mainly complex or compound [1].

The oath of Belarusian Scouts also consists of a number of integral parts which are separated by the words “WE SWEAR”. Every part starts with the Indefinite Infinitive in the Object function to show determination. The sentences are mainly simple, some contain homogeneous parts.

In our point of view, such structural and syntactic peculiarities show the rational, highly descriptive character of the US Rangers oath. The oath of Belarusian military men is more emotionally colored (exclamations after each part), its structure being simple. Though, it is obvious that in spite of using different structures, both oaths are determined for forming high spirit and proud of being a part of the military unit.

One more fact which is worth attention is that the oath of Rangers is formed from the first person singular (*I volunteered..., I will endeavor..., never shall I fail...*). It confirms the fact, the concept of individualism, specific for Western countries, especially for the USA, finds its reflection in the text of the military oath as well. At the same time the oath of Belarusians is pronounced from the first person plural (WE SWEAR!). Moreover, the ceremony is collective, and the words are pronounced in chorus. It proves the fact that esprit de corps is especially strong in Belarusian Special Operations Forces, and the concept of sacred Special Forces brotherhood prevails in their ideology.

The lexical contents of the texts under consideration are also different. The oath of US Rangers is more saturated with detailed information concerning their activities (*volunteer, endeavor, defeat, fight, complete*), physical

and mental state (*physically strong, mentally alert, morally straight*), actions in different situations, etc. The superiority of the ranger unit is proclaimed in every part of the oath (*a more elite soldier; move further, faster, and fight harder than any other soldier, I am a specially selected*, etc) and is summed up in their motto, “Rangers lead the way”.

At the same time the oath of Belarusian Scouts concentrates on such moral categories as faith, duty, honor, respect, disregard of self. The emphasis is made not on the superiority of the unit, but on the total devotion to the military service and discharging of duty, the motto being “Any place, any time, any tasks!”.

**Conclusion.** Thus, we see, that though US Rangers and Belarusian Special Forces Scouts are intended to perform the same functions, the texts of the military oath differ both structurally and by contents. This fact proves that ideology and mentality of armed forces in different countries is not similar. And in order to co-operate in the military sphere effectively, or in order to estimate the possible enemy correctly, it is necessary to analyze language units.

#### References

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### THE USE OF EMOTIONALLY COLOURED WORDS IN SCIENTIFIC LITERATURE

**Introduction.** The main stylistic feature of the scientific and technical text is the precise presentation of the material with the almost complete absence of those expressive elements that give the speech emotional saturation. The main emphasis is on the logical, and not on the emotional-sensory side of the statement. This leads to the fact that the scientific and technical texts seem too strict, without elements of emotional colouring.

However, according to A. Fedorov, the notion of some “neutral” style, devoid of imagery and emotionality, the concept is very relative, for the very absence of these properties constitutes a distinct, though a negative stylistic feature, and there is also a positive characterizing feature [1, с. 98].

“The style of the scientist is formal”, L. Borisova writes, “It avoids inaccurate definitions, unripe generalizations, sensations, its work always has clarity and a deep insight into the essence of the subject, which is inseparable from the clarity of thinking and formulations. It avoids contractions and turns of spoken language” [2, с. 166].

**Main part.** It should be noted that the scientific and technical text, nevertheless, includes a number of neutral coloured lexical units and phraseological combinations. Without depriving the text of accuracy, they give it vitality and variety. The stylistic colouring of emotional elements in the scientific literature is particularly intense, contrasting the general background of logical, objective forms of evaluation, the qualification of objects and phenomena of the material world. When using linguistic units in the “habitual” environment their stylistic colouring merges with the overall colour of speech, and when these units are transferred to an “unusual” situation, the stylistic colouring appears with the greatest clarity, the same style in various functional styles can have different expressive power. Any use of words in a different context than the one that is determined by the shade of their group can cause a definite stylistic effect.

Emotionally expressive vocabulary is the sort of the language which is associated with human feelings and, as a rule, expresses positive or negative attitude. The contribution to the creation of a general heightened emotional and expressive tonality of English scientific prose is made by the use of emotionally enhanced nouns. In particular, you can specify the following words: *изящество* ‘gracefulness’, *восхищение* ‘admiration’, *триумф* ‘triumph’, *великодушие* ‘generosity’, etc.

A positive evaluation is regularly used in the following cases:

1) to characterize the work of a scientist (or scientists): his concept, theory, hypothesis, experiment, the method of his work. Here nouns are used, like *красота* — beauty, *изящество* — gracefulness, *восхищение* — admiration, *триумф* — triumph;

2) to reflect the outstanding abilities of man as a scientist. In this case we observe the use of nouns like *гений* — genius, *самопожертвование* — self-sacrifice;

3) to describe the subject or process that is analyzed, such words as *совершенство* — perfection, *энтузиазм* — enthusiasm, *великодушие* and *щедрость* — generosity, *мудрость* — wisdom.

Thus, the peculiarity of scientific communication brings to life the characteristic functions in which appraising nouns are used. According to the examples of the nouns given above, it can be seen that these