

Red Army Instruction Manual On Fighting Enemy Cavalry, late 1919 - early 20.

Two pages 7" x 9 1/4", front and verso. The manual provides tactical instructions for the Red Army Cavalry on fighting the cavalry of the "Whites", building them on the experience gained during suppression of the raid led by the famous commander of the Don Cossacks General Mamontov in the rear of the Red Army's front lines in the south of Russia.

In good to very good condition. The paper of the document is low quality and somewhat frail, showing rips to the left margin where it was removed from a file. Two pieces of paper around the top two filing staples are missing. The fold lines are flattened out and show minimal separations, not requiring reinforcement yet. The bottom half of the last page is mildly soiled due to being the outer side of the document when it was folded in four. However, all the wear and damage to the paper is contained to the margins, leaving the text and the handwritten inscription in blue pencil on the front page clear and legible. The blue inscription reads "To the inspector of the Engineers, 12th [??]" The last two letters, most likely designation of a military unit, is unfortunately not clear.

Lt. Gen. Konstantin Mamontov. (aka Mamantov) fought in the White Army in the South of Russia. The raid mentioned in this manual refers to the massive raid Mamontov's cavalry undertook in the Red Army's rear from August to October of 1919, wreaking havoc, capturing major towns, interrupting communications between front lines and their staffs. They blew up bridges, railroad lines and ammunition dumps, and dispersed newly drafted RKKA units. By Lenin's special order, the best of the Red Army cavalry under Budyonny's command were sent against Mamontov. In November, Budyonny succeeded in defeating Mamontov's troops after very hard and bloody fighting at Kastornaya, a village in the vicinity of Kursk.

Please note that the pen in our photo is for size reference.

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