

## Georgii Vladimirovich KAMENKOV

(Biographical Note) (\*)

G. V. Kamenkov was born on January 12, 1908 (Old Style: December 30, 1907) at Nochka, a station on the Moscow-Kazan' Railroad. His father was a railroad worker.

In 1915 the young Kamenkov was enrolled in school in the town of Saransk. In 1924 his family moved to Kazan', where in 1926 he completed a two-year course in preparation for higher education.

In the same year Kamenkov passed the entrance examinations for Kazan' University, where he became a student in the mathematics section of the physico-mathematical department. There he attended lectures by Profs. N. N. Parfent'ev, N. I. Perfil'ev, D. A. Gol'dhammer, D. N. Zeiliger, N. G. Chebotarev and P. A. Shirokov.

On graduating from the University in 1930, Kamenkov remained as a graduate student in theoretical mechanics under the tutelage of N. G. Chetaev.

Kamenkov was an active participant of the famous seminar ("Vermutungsseminar") conducted by N. G. Chetaev, which laid the foundation for the Kazan' school of the theory of stability of motion.

Kamenkov's first papers on the stability of motion in critical cases, which he wrote under the supervision of N. G. Chetaev, were an extension of Liapunov's well-known results.

In 1932 the decision was made to organize the Kazan' Aviation Institute on the basis of the aerodynamics section of Kazan' State University. Kamenkov took an active part in the founding and development of the Institute.

After defending his candidate's thesis on the stability of von Kármán vortex streets in 1933, Kamenkov was appointed lecturer in aircraft aerodynamics at the Kazan' Aviation Institute. Kamenkov then worked in the fields of aerodynamics and stability of motion. In 1937 he successfully defended his doctoral thesis. His study "On the Stability of Motion" earned him first prize in the All-Union Contest of Papers by Young Scientists in 1938. In the same year he received his professorship in mechanics.

Kamenkov's scientific and administrative work contributed much to the training of aviation scientists in the Soviet Union.

From 1937 to 1944 Kamenkov served as Deputy Director of Scientific and Educational Work at the Kazan' Aviation Institute. In 1944 he was appointed Director of the Institute, holding that post until 1949.

During the war years, in his capacity as Chief of the Kazan' Affiliate of the Central Aerohydrodynamic Institute, Kamenkov contributed much energy and selfless effort to the development of aviation technology.

In 1949 Kamenkov joined the Moscow Aviation Institute of the Order of Lenin, first as Deputy Director of Scientific Work, rising to the directorship of the Institute in 1956.

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\*) See the pages immediately following for a survey of G. V. Kamenkov's papers and a bibliography of his published work.

During his tenure as director of the country's largest institution of higher learning, Kamenkov continued to work intensely in the field of mechanics. In the last years of his life Kamenkov headed the aerodynamics department (chair) of the Moscow Aviation Institute.

In 1942 Kamenkov joined the Communist Party.

He took an active part in public life, serving at various times as deputy to the Kazan' City Soviet, member of the Bauman District Committee of the Communist Party in Kazan, member of the Leningrad District Committee of the Communist Party in Moscow, and deputy to the Moscow City Soviet.

The Soviet Government accorded due recognition to Kamenkov's many years of work in science, administration and public life, awarding him the Orders of Lenin and the Red Banner of Labor, the "Badge of Honor", and various medals.

Kamenkov died in Moscow on October 9, 1966.

All who knew Kamenkov professionally or privately felt his humility, humanity, simplicity, accessibility and readiness to lend support and assistance.

The name of Kamenkov, outstanding scientist and one of the first followers of Liapunov in the field of motion stability theory, will live on in the history of mechanics.

Translated by A. Y.