

# Russian army rations to swap cigarettes for candy

## 俄國軍方配給：香菸OUT、糖果IN

Russia will no longer include free cigarettes in its food rations for servicemen but will **compensate** by providing them with candy, according to a top general.

"We are no longer buying cigarettes for the armed forces and are replacing them with caramel and sugar," Lieutenant-General Dmitry Bulgakov was quoted by news agencies as saying.

He specified however that Russia was not banning smoking in the military.

"Naturally, if a soldier wants to smoke we can't **forbid** this. But now he'll have to buy cigarettes in stores," Bulgakov said. "If you want to smoke, then smoke. If you don't want to smoke, eat candy."

Bulgakov also announced defense ministry plans to provide military officers who work mainly indoors or in hot climates with new uniforms, including socks that let feet "breathe" and shoes "of high-quality leather."

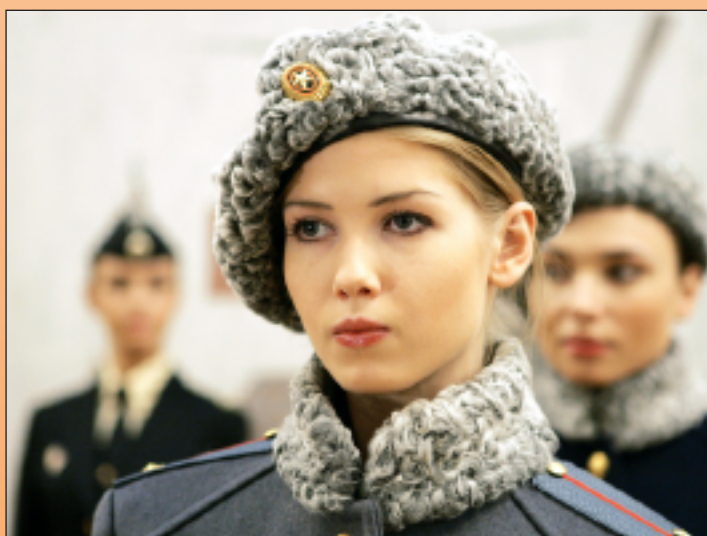
However, after being issued a complete uniform kit at the start of service officers will afterwards have to purchase new uniform components themselves, albeit from special military stores open only to officers and their families.

The Russian military has **rung the changes** in recent years. Its decision to introduce updated, higher-quality uniforms to Russian military **personnel** was made in 2007, and were scheduled to be issued this year.

However, while a few units have received new uniforms — notably those that marched on the May 9 Victory Day parade on Red Square — the project has been delayed due to defense ministry budget cuts.

Defense chiefs now planned to phase in the new uniforms over the next two to three years, Bulgakov said.

(AFP)



一位俄國高級將領表示，未來軍人定量配糧將不再提供免費香菸，取而代之的是免費糖果。

新聞媒體引述陸軍中將迪米崔·保加科夫的話說：「我們不再為軍隊購買香菸，將改買牛奶糖和食糖。」

然而，他明確表示俄國軍方並沒有禁止官兵吸菸。

保加科夫說：「若士兵要抽菸，我們當然不會禁止，但他得自己掏腰包買菸。如果想抽菸，就抽菸；但如果不抽菸，就吃糖果吧。」

保加科夫同時宣佈，國防部打算發新制服給主要在室內或炎熱環境中工作的軍官，其中包括「會呼吸」的襪子和「高級皮革」的鞋子。

然而，軍官在服役初期會收到一套完整的制服，之後即使是去專為軍官和其眷屬開設的軍用品店，還是得自己花錢買新的軍服配件。

俄國軍方最近幾年大幅革新。他們在二〇〇七年決定引進符合時代潮流的高品質軍服給俄國官兵，這批新制服預計於今年發放。

然而，在若干部隊（五月九日衛國戰爭勝利日在紅場上遊行的特定部隊）領到新制服後，這項計畫就因國防部預算遭到縮減而延期。

保加科夫表示，國防部總司令現在打算在接下來的兩三年內，分批進行新制服的發放作業。

(法新社／翻譯：袁星慶)

### TODAY'S WORDS 今日單字

1. **compensate** /'kæmpən, set/ v.  
補償 (bu3 chang2)

**例：** If you have any extra expenses, the company will compensate you at the end of the month.  
(如果你有額外支出，公司會在月底將這筆款項補給你。)

2. **forbid** /fə'bid/ v.  
禁止 (jin4 zhi3)

**例：** The headmaster has forbidden students from bringing cell phones to school.  
(這所私立學校的校長禁止學生帶手機上學。)

3. **personnel** /pɜːsnəl/ n.  
人員 (ren2 yuan2)

**例：** Prior to the takeover, the chairman made an announcement to all senior personnel.  
(董事長在公司被接管前發了通知給所有資深員工。)

### IDIOM POINT 片語要點

#### ring the changes 革新

You **ring the changes** when you do something new or make a lot of changes. The article mentions that the Russian military has made a lot of changes with regards to staff uniforms.

Examples: "The candidate has promised to **ring the changes** if his election campaign is successful."

如果說你「ring the changes」，就表示你做了某件新鮮的事或是做了很多改變。文章中提到，俄國軍方已在軍隊制服上做了許多改變。

例如：「那名候選人承諾當選後將大幅革新」。

Top: Soldiers shoot a salute into the air at a war monument in the southern Russian city of Stavropol during a ceremony marking the city's liberation from Nazi Germany's army during World War II, on Jan. 21, 2009. PHOTO: REUTERS

Center: A model displays a new style for the winter uniform for women in Russia's army, during a presentation of new Russian military uniforms in the Defense Ministry, Moscow, on Jan. 28, 2008.

Above: Wearing the World War II era Red Army uniform, a man and a boy take part in the annual Victory Day celebration in downtown St. Petersburg, Russia, on May 9, 2009.

PHOTOS: AP

最上：六月二十一日，在俄國南部斯塔夫羅波爾市一座戰爭紀念碑旁，士兵們在一場紀念該市於二次世界大戰期間脫離納粹德軍掌控的典禮上，對空鳴槍致敬。

照片：路透社

中央：元月二十八日，在莫斯科國防部內舉行的一場新軍服發表會上，一位模特兒展示俄國軍方新款女兵冬季制服。

上圖：五月九日，在俄國聖彼得堡市中心舉行的衛國戰爭勝利日年度慶祝典禮上，一名男子和一個男孩穿著二次世界大戰蘇聯紅軍制服參加這場慶典。

照片：美聯社