

SIMON SOLOLEFF - Central, Ak

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REL 1

Simon was born in Russia and fought in World War I...Czar's army...then civil war in Siberia and came to the United States in 1923.

He comes from peasant stock, family in Kirov. Everybody in his village and family illiterate. A doctor saw that Simon was eager to learn and helped him go to school, including high school in another community. Simon got a diploma that entitled him to teach school....taught one year and was drafted and sent to cadet school. In 1915 he was made a second lieutenant in the Czar's army. Went to the Rumanian front to fight Germans 1915-1916 and 1917. In 1917 the revolution occurred. Last saw parents in 1917. Left Kirov and went to Vladivostok (sp?) in the winter of 1918 where he was ordered. Then assigned to China...Manchuria. He was in the White Army and fighting Bolsheviks. Retreated to Manchuria...describes starvation, fighting, dead horses and soldiers...Monguls eating horses' milk, yak meat and some rice.