MIKHAIL PETROVICH DEVYATAYEV.

Here is an example about an unparalleled exploit performed by a Soviet patriot and his comrades during the Great Patriotic War.

He is Hero of the Soviet Union, national hero of Mordovia (born in 1917), who during the Great Patriotic War was a fighter pilot and shot down nine fascist planes.

On July 13, 1944, in one of the air battles during the offensive of our troops in the Ukraine, Devyatayev was wounded and had to jump with parachute from his burning plane. The fascists captured him, when he was unconscious, and placed him in a concentration camp.

The fascist concentration camp was located on a small island Usedom in the Baltic Sea. The fascists had a secret air base there and used prisoners-of-war for hard work at this air base. But even in the concentration camp the Soviet patriot continued his struggle against the enemy.

Devyatayev formed a small group of Soviet prisoners-of-war and began preparations for an escape from the concentration camp. And they did it successfully.

After the war Devyatayev was captain of a ship on the Volga. When he was standing on the captain’s bridge he was often recalling those difficult and heroic days of the war. He remembered them all, from the first to the last.