

Russian Military Vehicle Winterization Challenge

OE Watch Commentary: It is not news that it is very cold in the Arctic. As the accompanying article notes, temperatures where the Northern Fleet's ground and coastal defense troops are stationed on the Arctic islands run routinely between minus 20 and minus 40 degrees Celsius. In fact, this year's record on Kotelny Island was minus 47 degrees Celsius. As the article notes, among the latest vehicles entering service in this severe environment is the new DT-10 PM: two-section transport trucks that can operate in temperatures "as low as minus 50 degrees Celsius." To counter such equipment operating challenges, the Russians note that they are building garage structures equipped with heating and high wind-resistance **End OE Watch Commentary (Grau)**

“This year the lowest temperature recorded on Kotelny Island was minus 47 degrees Celsius [-52.6 degrees Fahrenheit].”

Source: “Russian troops in Arctic region prepare equipment for extreme frosts,” *Interfax*, 29 November 2017. <http://www.interfax.com>

The Northern Fleet's ground and coastal defense troops stationed on the Arctic islands and in the Far North have checked their equipment's operability in super low temperatures.

According to a spokesperson of the Northern Fleet “The average temperatures during the winter months on the Arctic islands range between minus 20 and minus 40 degrees Celsius [-4 to -40 degrees Fahrenheit], depending on how far warm sea currents extend. This year the lowest temperature recorded on Kotelny Island was minus 47 degrees Celsius [-52.6 degrees Fahrenheit].

Special attention was given to caterpillar-track off-road vehicles which entered service in 2017, in particular the new DT-10 PM two-section articulated transport trucks with a ten-ton capacity, which can operate anywhere off-road in temperatures as low as minus 50 degrees Celsius [-58 degrees Fahrenheit].

These machines, deployed with the Northern Fleet's motor rifle brigades and naval infantry units, are also serving as part of a tactical group on the Kotelny Island of the New Siberian Islands archipelago in the Laptev Sea.

On the Arctic islands of Kotelny and Alexandra Land, where two modern administrative and living compounds, Northern Clover and Arctic Trefoil, will be built, stationary hermetic box structures, equipped with heating and high wind-resistance, have been erected to store equipment for use in super low temperatures.



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DT-10PM tracked vehicle, Military-technical forum ARMY-2017.

Source: Vitaly Kuzmin Military Blog, <http://www.vitalykuzmin.net/Military/ARMY-2017-Demonstration-p2/i-xbRsqXS/A>, CC 4.0.