



N O R T H A M E R I C A N
BUDENNYHORSE
R E G I S T R Y

October 14, 2018

Dear Ms. Anna Nikolaeva,

I hope that this letter may be able to help in some way. As you know, my name is Karina Rapp, and I am the founder of the North American Budenny Horse Registry (NABHR). In order to further develop the Budenny horse in North America, the NABHR was created in 2017. It replaced the North American Budenny Society (2008-2017) which held the distinction of being the number-one English-language and American-based resource on the Budenny horse, with breed information verified by VNIIC. Today, the NABHR aims to:

- Support and promote the breed worldwide.
- Aid in the registration of Budenny horses in the United States with VNIIC in Russia.
- Facilitate the importation of Budenny horses from Russia and abroad.

Recent news about the First Cavalry Army Stud disposing of Budenny stallions has reached the United States and has alarmed us greatly. The Budenny horse is a special Russian breed with growing popularity as a sport horse in America, with the potential to reach the same heights as the Akhal-Teke. Preserving varied bloodlines for the breed's continued success is integral to its survival. Our second most influential breeding stallion in the USA, Rubico, aka Rinit (Rabat x Norka) was from First Cavalry Army. He was a 4th Level dressage horse; this is the highest level of competition a horse can reach in the United States Dressage Federation. He is now deceased, but he left behind a legacy of competitive horses performing at A-rated hunter-jumper shows and combined training/eventing on the East coast of the United States.

Excessive breeding and importation of European sport horses such as Holsteiners and KWPN have caused the most popular breeds in current competition to be a dime a dozen, all with the same pedigrees, traits, and faults. The Budenny is a unique warmblood that stands out, a vibrant golden beacon separate from European bloodlines. Their willing temperament, intellect, and athleticism make them stand out under pressure in competition. Russian Warmbloods and

Russian Sport Horses already exist...why erase the precious base stock from which they all originated?

In 2017, the NABHR partnered with the Italian/Russian company Lotus Performance Horses to help facilitate the sale of high quality Budenny horses from the top studs in Russia (including First Cavalry Army) and frozen shipped semen for Artificial Insemination (AI) to America. We are very excited about the future of this partnership. AI will expand our opportunities to bring fresh bloodlines to America quickly, and will allow the Budenny horse to reach a wider audience. AI is an extremely popular breeding method for American competition horses; it has allowed European warmblood bloodlines to reach the USA—and now it can do the same for Russian horses. With the opening of an insemination and breeding center in Moscow, this presents a wonderful opportunity. I hope that the important bloodlines of First Cavalry Army will be preserved here.

Budennies in America have been performing at the highest levels of competition, and the breed's capability to compete with and win against current popular European warmbloods should not be overlooked. Budenny horses in the United States compete in dressage, endurance, and show jumping. They have reached the heights of the Grand Prix Special at events sponsored by the International Federation for Equestrian Sports as well as United States Dressage Federation 4th and 2nd Levels; competed for 125 miles at American Endurance Ride Conference events; and produced international show jumping champions. Two Budennies of historical fame, Rhythmical and Passop, even competed in show jumping at the Olympics for the USA team.

The crisis of having so few Budenny breeding stallions in the USA has been the only factor slowing the breed's expansion. New opportunities with AI are likely to give the Budenny population a great boost in the USA over the next ten years. I have been fielding requests for breeding stallions ever since 2008; the difficulties of exporting piroplasmosis-free animals and dealing with international relations between buyers and stud farms in Russia has slowed progress, but with the NABHR's new partnership with Lotus Performance Horses and news of the opening of the Moscow breeding center, we are confident that this marks a new era for the Budenny horse in the USA and worldwide.

Please do what you can to preserve the important bloodlines at First Cavalry Army Stud!

If there is anything our organization can do to assist in any way, please contact me directly.

Sincerely,

Karina Rapp
Founder
North American Budenny Horse Registry

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