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**THE UPS AND DOWNS IN THE CAREER OF NAVAL OFFICER
VALENTIN PASPALEEV**

(Summary)

Based on recently discovered formal archive documents, the article analyses the career of the Bulgarian Captain Valentin Paspaleev, Chief of Naval Staff (ranked posthumously rear admiral), who was repressed in 1949. It depicts both the events of his service as an officer before and during World War II, and the reasons for his tragic demise on the background of the .purges. among the naval officers carried out after 1944. The author outlines Paspaleev's contributions for minesweeping the Danube River and the importance of his publications in popularizing the maritime idea in Bulgaria.