The Moscow Times
30 YEARS
INDEPENDENT NEWS FROM RUSSIA

Mass Grave Uncovered Near St. Petersburg

September 11, 2014

A World War II-era mass grave has been unearthed in a village near St. Petersburg, LifeNews reported Thursday.

The discovery was made by a volunteer search party from the village of Vazhinsky in the Podporozhsky district of the Leningrad region.

The group, headed by Yury Shershnyov, is known for its frequent expeditions to locate the graves of World War II soldiers.

The group has already made several discoveries in the area. On Tuesday, a special ceremony was held to bury the bodies of 16 Soviet troops discovered by Shershnyov's group, Interfax reported. Experts were unable to determine the soldiers' identities, the report said.

The Podporozhsky district was the scene of fierce fighting between the Red Army and Finnish troops between 1941 and 1942, with an estimated 15,000 soldiers having been killed there.

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