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COMMAND OF THE PRIŠTINA CORPS

Strictly confidential no. 880-243

19 September 1998

MILITARY SECRET

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

ORDER

To support MUP /Interior Ministry/ forces in breaking up DTS
/sabotage and terrorist forces/ in the general Čičavica sector

Map: 1:50,000 Kosovska Mitrovica, sheets: 1,2,3 and 4;
Priština, sheets: 1 and 3

1. THE ENEMY:

In the general territory of Mt. Čičavica *šiptar* /Albanian/ DTS of about 1500 to 1750 terrorists are deployed, grouped in detachments of company strength as follows:

- In the sector of Bivoljak, Benčuk and Sibovac villages, there are about 250 to 300 *šiptar* terrorists, grouped in the villages in platoons of 40 to 70. The detachment command is in Žilivode /as printed/ village. They have two heavy 12.7 mm PAMs /anti-aircraft machine guns/, three 60 mm MBs /mortars/, one 82 mm MB, several RBs /handheld rocket launchers/, five 7.9 mm machine-guns and 50 kilograms of explosive.
- In the sector of Brusnik, Štitarica and Pirča villages, there are about 200 terrorists in the villages grouped in platoons of 40 to 60. The detachment command is in Ošljane village in a two-storey house 100 metres from the transformer station.
In the sector of Ljubovac, Donje Prekaze and Dubovac villages there are about 350 do 400 *šiptar* terrorists grouped in platoons in the villages, with the detachment command in Dubovac village.
- In the sector of Krasalić, Doševac and Godance villages, there are about 350 to 400 terrorists grouped in platoons in the villages. Detachment command is in Likošane village, where there are also refugees from other populated areas.
- In the sector of Vrbovac, Poluža and Banjica villages there is a DTS of about 150 to 200 *šiptar* terrorists. There is a large group of refugees in the Trstenik village sector.
- In the villages of Gornje and Donje Obrinje and on Kosmač mountain there are DTS forces of *šiptar* terrorists 200 to 250 strong, some of whom are from other areas of Drenica and very extremist. There are many refugees in these villages, imprisoned in houses.

- In the general sector of Vasiljevo village, about 150 terrorists are occupying huts originally built for work drives. They control the area north of the Slatina-Komorane road.
- Most of the *šiptar* terrorists took part earlier in fighting in Metohija and most of them exercise the duties of commanding officers. At the moment about 70% of the terrorist are armed and weapons for the others are being kept in depots. They are deployed about the villages where village staffs have been formed and staff commanders and deputies appointed. Most of the terrorists wear civilian clothes with the KLA emblems stitched on.

They have at their disposal: automatic weapons, heavy 12.7 mm machine-guns, a 60 mm MB, an 82 mm MB, several hand-held rocket launchers and a 7.9 mm machine-gun, several sniper rifles and a small quantity of explosives and anti-tank mines.

Engineering defence works have been carried out in all villages, bunkers and trenches built, village guards of 6-10 men arranged, unclassified roads mended and rebuilt and a road has been built across Mt. Čičavica. Besides the roads, bunkers have been built and well camouflaged with hay stacks. Ambushes of about 15 to 20 terrorists have been set up at approaches to populated areas and large forests. They are supplied with anti-personnel and anti-tank mines and equipment for anti-tank combat. There are many caves on Mt. Čičavica which the *šiptar* terrorists have prepared as bases and shelters for equipment and civilians.

The aim of DTS operations is: to prevent the establishment of a system of government in this area; to sabotage the Priština-Vučitrn-Kosovska Mitrovica-Gornja Klina and Glogovac-Srbica roads; to keep Mt. Čičavica under their control as a vantage point for guerrilla warfare.

There are no refugees in the open in the general Mt. Čičavica area, except in villages in the Vučitrn municipality where they are staying in peasant households.

The DTS get their food and ammunition supplies from the villages of Pestovo, Madjunsko and Dobra Luka, using the newly built road along Mt. Čičavica which links up the villages of Žilivoda, Gradica, /Krasimirovac/, Kožica and Krasalić. They use three jeeps to bring in supplies, 4-5 Lada Nivas and passenger cars, and wear civilian clothes when bringing in supplies. There is a makeshift hospital in Gradica village, where there are about 15 wounded terrorists. In the villages of Žilivoda and Likošane there are camps for abducted Serbs, whose number is unknown.

Morale is falling fast among the *šiptar* terrorists and there are frequent quarrels. Following preparations for guerrilla warfare, the DTS is being reformed and training organised for this type of warfare. There are cases of desertion from the units, with individuals and entire families leaving for Priština, Kosovska Mitrovica and Vučitrn.

2. Task of the Priština Corps

Surround the DTS with part of the Corps forces in the Mt. Čičavica and the Ovčarevo, Balince and Banjica village sectors. Use swift and vigorous action to support MUP forces in breaking up DTS in the general Mt. Čičavica sector, eject them from the Glogovac-Srbica road, break up and destroy the forces surrounded in the general Mt. Čičavica sector, and then break up and destroy DTS cut off in the Ovčarevo, Balince and Banjica village sectors, ensuring complete control of these territories.

During operations, ensure protection and reception of refugee civilians and arrange for their return home.

3. Task of neighbouring units:

MUP forces within range of the following roads: Likovac-Poljance-Srednja Klina-Gornja Klina-Kosovska Mitrovica; Ovčarevo-Cerovik-Komorane-Slatina and Kosovska Mitrovica-Vučitrn-Priluzje-Veliki Belačevac: throw a wide cordon around the territory and control it to prevent an influx of DTS from the battle sectors or DTS intervention in the direction of the battle sectors.

In addition part of the Serbian population in the Serbian settlements shall cut off the right bank of the Sitnica river and prevent DTS from crossing from Mt. Čičavica to Vučitrn and the slopes of Mt. Kopaonik, and vice versa.

4. **I have decided:** using some of the corps forces, support MUP forces in breaking up and destroying DTS on the foothills of Mt. Čičavica in the Ovčarevo, Balince and Banjica sector. **Objective:** from a flexible position support the MUP attack. Engaging territorially-based MUP forces and the Serbian population, throw a wide cordon around Mt. Čičavica, break up and destroy any DTS you discover along the axes of attack and along the Glogovac-Poluža village road. Then by engaging special MUP units, while restricting room for manoeuvre in all directions, totally destroy the DTS on Mt. Čičavica.

At the same time, use some of your forces to support the MUP in breaking up DTS along the axis: Štrbulovo-Banjica-Trstenik village and in blocking the sector: Ovčarevo, Balince, Banjica.

Having routed the DTS in the Mt. Čičavica sector and along the Štrbulovo-Banjica-Trstenik village axis, regroup your forces as required and support the MUP in breaking up DTS in the general Gornje and Donje Obrinje village sector, where you will undertake the total destruction of the DTS.

By engaging some of the MUP forces, ensure control of all approach roads and the protection and care of the civilian population outside the combat zone.

Combat formation:

- attack forces
- blockade forces
- forces for control of the territory
- fire support forces
- combat operations support forces
- logistics support forces

- forces for reception and care of refugees
- command and communications forces

Stand-by for support: 22 September 1998 at 0700 hours.

Combat operations to be carried out in two stages:

Phase 1 (2-3 days): break up DTS on north-western slopes of Mt. Čičavica, rout them and eject them from the Glogovac-Srbica road. Completely surround the DTS in the Ovčarevo, Balince, Banjica village sector/?s/.

Phase 2 (1-2 days): destroy any residual forces along the Čičavica ridge in the Ovčarevo, Balinice, Banjica village sector/?s/ and establish control of the territories. Go on to arrange for the return of refugee civilians to their villages.

5. TASKS:

5.1 – Engage the 125th mtbr /motorised brigade/ in support of the MUP forces in breaking up DTS.

BG /combat group/ 125-1: use the main forces along the Srbica Dubovac village axis and auxiliary forces on the Kosanić-Ljubovac axis. **TASK:** to support attack by the 3rd Detachment of the PJP /Special Police Unit/, the JSO /Special Operations Unit/ and the Peć čPJP /PJP company/. Rout the DTS in the Donje and Gornje Prekaze sector, from where you will continue the attack and take the villages of Mikušnica, Ljubovac and Dubovac. Coordinate action with BG 125-4 to take the Čečan pass (tt/trig point/ 728), and with part of your forces coordinate with BG 15-3 in taking the Kraljica feature, firing as far as Golovića /?under/ (tt 723). From this line cut off the surrounded DTS on Mt. Čičavica and take part in destroying them.

BG /combat group/ 125-4: use the main forces along the Svinjare-Ošljane-Taradža village axis and auxiliary forces along the Kolo-Brusnik-Čečan pass (tt 728) axis: **Task:** to support attack by the 5th Detachment of the PJP and the Kosovska Mitrovica č /company/ of the PJP. Rout the DTS in the Ošljane and Kolo sectors. With some of the forces rout the DTS in the Okraštica, Pantina and Štitarica sectors; use the main forces to rout the DTS and overcome the villages of Ošljane, Balince, Jezero and Taraca, and the auxiliary forces to rout them and overcome the village of Brusnik . In coordinated action with BG 125-1, take the Čečan pass (tt 728). Then while controlling the Čečan pass, support the JSO in breaking up and destroying DTS on Mt. Čičavica, preventing them from falling back to the Sitnica river.

Borderline with BG 15-1 from (but not including) Šalce village up to and including Resnik village.

5.2 – use the 15th okbr /armoured brigade/ to support the MUP forces to break up DTS.

- **BG 15-1:** engage your main forces along the Sibovac-Žilivoda-Strovce village axis and auxiliary forces between Mijolić and Benčuk villages. **Task:** to support attack by the 1st PJP Detachment, the 1st and 8th Priština čPJP, rout DTS in the Žilivoda, Strovce, Bivoljak and Benčuk village sectors. Then break them up in the villages of Glavotina and Mijalić. Then cut them off from the Mahale village, Nemože (Drvare village)-Benčuk-Žilivoda village line. Take part in destroying DTS and prevent them from falling back towards the Sitnica and Drenica rivers.
- **Engage BG 15-2** along the Dobroševac-Likošane-Gradica village axis. **Task:** to support attack by the 8th PJP Detachment, the Djakovica čPJP and the SAJ /Special Anti-Terrorist Unit/, rout and destroy DTS in the Godance, Fazlovići and Gladno Selo village sectors. Continue the attack and take Likošane village. Then take Gradica village, from where you will support the SAJ and with the rest of the forces take part in routing DTS from the ridge of Mt. Čičavica, preventing them from falling back towards the Drenica river.
- **Engage BG 15-3** along the Trstenik-Poluža-Doševac-Krasmirovac village axis. **Task:** to support attack by the 10th /?Prizren/ PJP Detachment, break up and destroy DTS in Poluža village and eject them from the Glogovac-Srbica road. Continue the attack and rout them in the Doševac village sector. In coordinated action with BG 125-1, take the Kraljica sector. Then rout the DTS in the villages of Kožica, Krasmirovac, Prelovac and Krasalić from where you will take part with the rest of the forces in destroying the DTS on the ridge of Mt. Čičavica, preventing them from pulling out westwards.
- **5.3 Use the 243rd mtbr** to support MUP forces to break up the DTS.
- **Engage BG 243-2** along the Štrbulovo-Banjica-Trstenik village axis. **Task:** to support attack by the Gnjilane and Uroševac čPJPs, break up and destroy DTS in Banjica village and eject them from the Glogovac-Srbica road. Continue the attack and rout and destroy DTS in the Trstenik village sector. With some of the forces support the PJP to break up DTS on the Banjica-Trdevac village axis and do not allow them to pull out on to the Kosmač feature.

5.4 Blockade forces

The command of the MUP forces will use territorially-based MUP units and some of the Serbian population to cut off the following lines: Štitarica-Mijalić-Plemetina and Lapušnik-Cerovik-Dobra Voda-Sićevo-Tica. **Task:** cut the DTS off from these lines and prevent them pulling out of the encirclement. Also to prevent DTS intervention from other directions towards the encirclement area.

6 COMBAT SUPPORT

6.1. Intelligence support and security

Focus intelligence support on personal reconnaissance of the strength, structure and deployment of the DTS along the axes of attack and in the sectors from which

forceful DTS intervention might be possible. Particularly confirm information on any redeployment areas or DTS bases on the Mt. Čičavica ridge.

While bringing in troops and taking up a flexible attack position, ensure the greatest secrecy of deployment and intent of our own forces and gather information on the location and strength of the DTS from the MUP and VJ /Yugoslav Army/ who are checking out the territory.

In all units, arrange for POWs and refugees to be questioned in order to obtain the required information /?on/ the commanding, strength, structure and intent of the DTS.

Pay particular attention to the protection of data and documents for the upcoming operations.

Only unit commanders and officers directly involved are to be informed of the task.

Get security organs to focus primarily on unit protection via counterintelligence, on checking the security measures ordered in the combat zone, preventing the theft and looting of property and controlling the territory.

When carrying out tasks, establish complete cooperation with MUP organs in the general combat zone.

6.2. – Combat Support

a) Reconnaissance

Until the start of combat operations, all units reconnoitre routes along which troops will be brought in, particularly in sectors leading towards roads and passes on Mt. Čičavica. Monitor directions leading towards combat operation sectors and from which the DTS could intervene.

During combat operations, reconnoitre using reconnaissance forces and forces in direct contact. Report through the command network.

b) Security

- c) Implement all security measures when bringing in the units, particularly when introducing them into the support sector. When dispatching them, provide them with communications equipment and inform units along their axis of introduction of their direction of movement and /?establish/ direct cooperation.

After bringing in the units, reinforce direct security of troops and MTS /material and technical equipment/ against surprise attack by the DTS.

Have all units in readiness to destroy any DTS discovered in the general redeployment areas.

During attack, focus security on protection of tanks, BVP /infantry combat vehicles/ and other hardware from DTS close fire, particularly on wooded and rugged terrain.

6.3.– Engineering support

Focus engineering support on movement and manoeuvre support, discovering and clearing minefields.

Assess the terrain and artificial features on both sides of the road along the axes of attack, and engage forces and equipment to ensure swift movement and manoeuvre accordingly.

If possible, bypass any mines and explosive obstacles encountered on roads and routes of attack. Where this is not possible, have the units and engineering and other necessary equipment at the ready to remove and destroy them.

When engaging units, pay particular attention to camouflaging hardware from surface or air reconnaissance.

6.4.Moral and Psychological Support

Moral and psychological preparation is to be carried out in all units just before commencing a task. Ensure motivation and readiness on the part of the troops to carry it out.

Prevent defeatism, fear and panic. When providing /combat/ support, strive to raise morale by personal example and courage on the part of the officer corps.

During support, pull the civilian population out of the combat zone, taking care that they are not used by terrorists as a shield when pulling out. Refugees will be taken on by the group for protection and care of refugees. Once the DTS have been routed and safety in populated areas checked, return them in organised fashion to their villages.

Fire on features from which terrorists are operating, and in the course of attack, ban troops from entering houses or other buildings in order to loot.

Prevent any approach to the media, humanitarian or other organisations in the combat sector, using MUP forces at checkpoints in the general /?area of the/ blockade of the territory.

7. LOGISTICS SUPPORT

For logistics support rely on the Kosovska Mitrovica, Priština and Peć garrisons, using your own forces and supplies and relying on the 202nd Logistics Base and the available capacities in the territory.

7.1.Technical support

Use of the following has been approved for the task:

- infantry weapon ammunition.....	1	b/k /combat set/
- ammunition for support pieces (82mm and 120mm MB).....	0.5	b/k
- artillery ammunition.....	0.25	b/k
- ammunition for 90 mm SO /self-propelled gun/.....	1	b/k
- tank weapon ammunition.....	0.25	b/k
- ammunition for anti-aircraft guns.....	0.25	b/k
- fuel for combat vehicles.....	0.5	p/r /tankful/
- fuel for motor vehicles	1	p/r

Man units up to the norm the day before the start of combat operations.

Repair slightly damaged equipment on the spot and pull out heavily damaged equipment to a suitable sector and then to the garrison at Kosovska Mitrovica, Priština or Peć or to the workshops at the 202nd Logistics Base.

7.2.Quartermaster support

Give the troops cooked rations until the beginning of combat /?operations/ and combined rations during operations, as decided by the unit commanders.

See that all units are duly supplied with water from reliable sources.

By the start of combat operations, arrange for baths and a change of clothes for the units.

7.3.Medical Support

Medical support shall be through coordinated action with medical institutions and organs in Kosovska Mitrovica, Priština and Peć.

Provide each soldier with a first dressing and supply medical organs and medics with the necessary medical supplies.

Use a medical helicopter to evacuate seriously injured and wounded soldiers. Have these /ready/ at the barracks in Djakovica /?and/ at Slatina airfield. Submit requests for medical helicopters through the Corps command.

7.4.Traffic support

Unit commanders shall be responsible for traffic control and regulation in the deployment sectors and along march routes.

For traffic support while manning the units, engage the traffic organs of the 52nd bVP /military police battalion/ and MUP organs.

7.5.Fire prevention and logistics support of arrested people

Arrange for fire monitoring and alert in all units. Use standard issue equipment and men to extinguish fires in the deployment sectors.

Visit major fire sectors during attack and fight minor fires with troops who are currently not engaged.

Arrange for logistics support of those arrested at Brigade level. Following interrogation, hand them over to the MUP organs for further processing.

During capture, pay particular attention to protecting the troops from any terrorist action (suicide bombers and terrorists with other explosive devices).

Collect all weapons, ammunition or other combat equipment captured or found and place them in the unit redeployment area before handing them over to organs of the 52nd bVP.

When collecting abandoned or discovered equipment take due precautions to avoid booby traps.

7.6. Protection and care of the refugee population

Receive and protect refugees during combat operations. Guard places where there are large groups of refugees, visit them and inform the units about caring for refugees. MUP units for refugee care will carry out triage. Provide medical care to those who need it, see that they are sheltered from the elements, distribute the necessary food, water and clothing and provide other humanitarian aid. Once the villages from which they fled have been cleared, organise their return home.

7.7. Clearing up the battlefield

Use your own forces and equipment to clear up the battlefield. When combat operations have ceased, engage the logistics organs of the Corps and Brigade commands in cooperation with organs in the territory.

8. COMMAND AND COMMUNICATIONS

Commanding of forces shall be from the KM /command post/ in the Priština sector.

Arrange communications according to the communications plan to be drawn up by the NV PrK /Chief of Communications, Priština Corps/ and the MUP.

Communications stand-by at 0500 hours on 22 September 1998.

For secret commanding of units, draw up a unified code chart and hand over to all unit commanders on a need-to-know basis.

- **Send reports:**
- **Regular:**
- combat reports by 1600 hours with the situation as at 1500 hours, by telegram via RU /mobile radio/-Jaguar or by code;

- after stand-by for support at 0800 hours and
- on completion of the day's task.
- **Interim:** as required
- **Signals:** according to the signals table

COMMANDER
Lieutenant General
Nebojša PAVKOVIĆ
/signed and stamped/