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JOINT COMMAND FOR KiM /Kosovo and Metohija/ MILITARY SECRET

Strictly Confidential no. 455-54 /handwritten: 56/ STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

22 March 1999

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DECISION

**to Crush and Destroy the ŠTS /Šiptar /Albanian/ terrorist forces/
in the sector of Donja Drenica**

Map Section 1:50,000 Kosovska Mitrovica 2 and 4

4. DECISION:

I decided as follows: carry out an attack engaging the main forces on the following axis: village of Poljance – village of Trstenik and village of Prelovac – village of Likošane, and auxiliary forces on the following axis: village of Gladno Selo – village of Likošane and village of Novo Čikatovo – village of Trstenik.

Objective: attacking vigorously from a semi-circular support point in coordinated action with the MUP /Ministry of the Interior/ of the Republic of Serbia, crush and destroy the ŠTS on the attack axes.

Use part of the forces to prevent incursion and withdrawal of the ŠTS into the area of Čičavica and western Drenica.

Further goal is to provide viability of the main roads and combat control of the territory of Donja Drenica.

Combat operations are to last 1-2 days.

Operation formation:

- forces for crushing and destroying the ŠTS
- blockade forces
- support forces
- forces providing b/g /combat readiness/
- command and communications forces

Readiness at 0700 on 23 March 1999

5. – UNIT TASKS:

5.1. 125th mtbr /motorised brigade/ (BG /combat group/-125-1 and BG-252)

Continue to attack from the line reached: village of Novo Selo – village of Poljance – tt /trig. point/ 723.

T a s k: In coordinated action with the 37th mtbr, 15th okbr /armoured brigade/ and two PJP /Special Police Unit/ companies, attack the following axis: village of Poljance – village of Grudić Mahala – Pajrom Morina, village of Ciganske Kuće – village of Doševac – village of Štutica – village of Poluža, crush and destroy the ŠTS

in the following sector: village of Novo Selo, village of Kruševac, Novo Poljance, village of Doševac, village of Mućol and in the immediate task reach the following line: k. /elevation/ 616 – village of Štutica – village of Doševac – k. 654.

Use part of the forces to join up with the 15th okbr, destroy the remaining fractions of the ŠTS, ensure viability of the Srbica - Glogovac road and combat control of the territory. Further goal is to prevent incursion and withdrawal of the ŠTS from the sector of Donja Drenica into the sector of Western Drenica.

KM /Command Post/ in the sector: Srbica.

5.2. 37th mtbr - from the line reached introduce forces into the following l/p /camp ground/: village of Ripa – village of Krasalić, and continue to attack from there.

T a s k: in coordinated action with the 125th mtbr and 15th okbr and two PJP companies, attack on the following axis: village of Krasalić – village of Kozica – village of Likošane, crush and destroy the ŠTS in the following sector: village of Kozica, village of Haljitović, village of Dubrava and in the immediate task reach the following line: village of Dubrava – village of Haljitović – tt 712, continue to attack and in the next task gain control of the following line: Kungulare (tt 679) – village of Likošane.

Further goal is to join up with the 15th okbr, destroy the remaining fractions of the ŠTS and ensure combat control of the territory.

KM in the sector: village of Krasalić.

5.3. 15th okbr (BG-1 and 2):

Continue to attack from the following line reached: Goluša – village of Staro Čikatovo – village of Novo Čikatovo.

T a s k: in coordinated action with the 37th mtbr and 125th mtbr and three PJP companies, attack on the following axis: Goluša – village of Godance – village of Likošane, village of Staro Čikatovo – village of Krasalić – village of Likošane and village of Novo Čikatovo – village of Globare – village of Vrbovac, crush and destroy the ŠTS in the following sector: village of Godance, village of Kurumelj, village of Krasalić, village of Novo Čikatovo, village of Globare and village of Cakić Mahala, and in the immediate task reach the following line: village of Bandići – village of Makreš - village of Trstenik.

Continue the attack and in the next task gain control of the following line: Gradica – village of Likošane – village of Vrbovac.

Use part of the forces to join up with the 37th mtbr and 125th mtbr, destroy the remaining dispersed fractions of the ŠTS and ensure viability of the roads and combat control of the territory.

Further goal is to prevent incursion and withdrawal of the ŠTS from the sector of Donja Drenica into the sector of Čičavica.

KM in the sector: village of Staro Čikatovo.

6. – INTELLIGENCE SUPPORT:

Intelligence support is to be focused on direct reconnaissance of strength, composition and deployment of DTS /sabotage and terrorist forces/ on the axes of attack.

Devote special attention to preventing loss of information and documents and protecting transfer of orders through the communications equipment.

7. – SECURITY SUPPORT:

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During task implementation impose the measures ordered to protect troops and SRT /combat hardware/. Special measures must be taken to prevent losses caused by booby traps and when fire is opened during blockade of ŠTS in populated areas.

8. – COMBAT SECURITY:

While attacks are carried out, suitably deploy troops to protect your unit from sudden terrorist attacks and devote full attention to protection of the wings and flanks.

During attack support must be focused on protection of combat vehicles from close-range DTS attacks, particularly in populated and wooded areas.

9. – MORAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL SUPPORT:

During preparation for task implementation, ensure motivation and readiness of troops for task implementation through direct moral and psychological preparation in all units.

Stress the need for correct treatment of loyal civilian population, particularly in refugee camps and regarding citizens' property. The media is to be treated in the spirit of the orders issued. Fire must be opened at the facilities from which the ŠTS are attacking. While combat operations are carried out, ban entering of houses and other facilities in the field.

10. – LOGISTICS SUPPORT:

Together with reinforcement units, the PoOB /Logistics Support/ will regulate the commands of the units used with their own forces and equipment /as printed/.

The following consumption is approved for task implementation:

- 2 b/k /combat sets/ of ammunition for infantry weapons and 1 b/k for other weapons
- 0.5 b/k of fuel for all m/v /motor vehicles/

Repair of heavily damaged TMS /Materiel and Technical Equipment/ is to be carried out by the unit's own forces and equipment, relying on the 202nd PoB /Logistics Base/.

Provision of care for the wounded is to be carried out by the unit's own forces and equipment, and the medical corps helicopter is to be engaged for the seriously wounded by request through the OC /Operations Centre/ of the PrK /Priština Corps/ Command.

Liquid food must be provided for the troops, and combined food during combat operations. Water is to be supplied from tested sources. Ban the use of water from local sources in the area where b/d /combat operations/ are carried out.

Organise PPZ /fire prevention/ in all units in deployment sectors and sectors where b/d are carried out by organising observation and reporting on fires. To put out small fires, use establishment equipment and troops assigned and trained for it.

Sectors of large fire are to be blocked and secured, and when b/d are completed, engage MUP /Ministry of the Interior/ fire fighting units to start bringing them under control.

After questioning, persons that have been brought into custody are to be turned over to the MUP organs for further processing.

Weapons seized and found, ammunition and other combat hardware are to be collected in unit deployment sectors, and then turned over to the 202nd PoB organs. Watch out for planted booby traps during collection of hardware and equipment that was left behind and found.

11. – COMMAND AND COMMUNICATIONS:

PrK KM in peacetime location.

Maintain communications with the PrK Command and subordinate units according to the existing communications documents, making sure that general KZ /cryptographic data protection/ documents are used.

Readiness of communications at 0500 hours on 23 March 1999

Signals: according to the signals table.

12. – Reports must be delivered as follows:

a) Regular reports: - on readiness to carry out attack

- daily reports by 1800 hrs with the situation at 1700 hrs

- upon completion of task

b) Interim reports: - as needed

13. – Coordinated action with MUP forces regarding preparation to carry out combat operations must be organised before the start of combat operations and while they are carried out.

The Joint Command for KiM from the Priština sector shall command and control all forces while combat operations are carried out.

JOINT COMMAND FOR KiM

DRAFT TRANSLATION