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Joint Command for KiM /Kosovo and Metohija/ MILITARY SECRET

Strictly confidential no. 455-73

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24 March 1999

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ORDER

**to provide support to MUP /Ministry of the Interior/ forces in defeating and
destroying ŠTS /Šiptar /Albanian/ Terrorist Forces/ in the Drenica sector**

Map – 1:50,000, Sections Kosovska Mitrovica 1, 2, 3, and 4

1. THE ENEMY:

In the past 15-20 days, the ŠTS have stepped up combat activities and attacks on units of the VJ /Yugoslav Army/ and MUP members, and have intensified DT /sabotage-terrorist/ operations in urban areas. The main ŠTS strongholds are in the sectors of: Kladernica village, Lauša village, Rezalija village, Likovac village, Plužina village, Donje Obrinje village, Gornje Obrinje village, and Turićevac.

The ŠTS have established the “Drenica” Operations Zone, comprising three brigades (with a strength of around 1,500 terrorists):

- KLA 114th Brigade, around 250 terrorists in the sector of Likovac village;
- KLA 140th Brigade, around 250 terrorists, KM /command post/ in the sector of Gradica village;
- KLA 112th Brigade, around 200 terrorists, KM in the sector of Lauša village.

The probable objective of the ŠTS is to take military, economic and socially-owned facilities, to expand and integrate the OZ /Operations Zone/ into a single entity, to take control of the main roads, and to bring about favourable conditions for controlling territory.

The ŠTS are armed with automatic rifles, PMs /light machine-guns/, machine-guns, PO /anti-tank/ weapons (*Osa*, *Zolja*, and *Armbrust*), and 60-mm and 82-mm MB /mortar/ support weapons.

We can expect fire from 60-mm and 82-mm MBs from the following sectors: Lauša village, Kladernica village, Rezala village, Likovac village, and Gornje Obrinje village.

Along the roads, we can expect ambushes and sudden raids on supply columns and individual vehicles of the VJ and the MUP.

In the deployment areas, fortification features are being constructed for firing and defence, and obstacles are being created in the form of mine clusters on the road sections at the entry and exit points of inhabited places. In inhabited areas they have set booby traps in schools, houses, and shops.

It is expected that the ŠTS will offer strong resistance on the attack axes of the VJ and the MUP, but with the loss of positions and losses in manpower the resistance will weaken until positions and features are abandoned.

2. TASK OF THE Pr /Priština/ CORPS:

The Priština Corps with reinforcements and the armed non-*Šiptar* population in KiM shall support MUP forces in defeating and destroying the ŠTS in the zone of responsibility.

T a s k : Support the MUP forces in the seal-off, defeat and destruction of the ŠTS in the Drenica sector. At the same time secure the DG /state border/ and prevent the infiltration of ŠTS by closing off routes from the Republic of Albania and the

Republic of Macedonia, and secure military facilities, roads, and exercise combat control over the territory. Use some of the forces to prevent the ŠTS from withdrawing from the Drenica sector and slipping through to the sectors of Mališevo and Baranski Lug.

KM in the sector of the PrK /Priština Corps/ Command building, Priština.

3. NEIGHBOURS :

3.1. By engaging forces in its home zone, the NK /Niš Corps/ shall secure the DG /state border/ with the Republic of Macedonia, shall prevent the infiltration of ŠTS from the Pčinja District into the PrK zone, and shall prevent the ŠTS from slipping through from KiM to the Pčinja District. They shall defeat and destroy the ŠTS in the Pčinja District, and be ready to engage in combined action with the PrK.

3.2. The 2/203rd mabr /2nd Battalion of the 203rd Mixed Artillery Brigade/ shall form AAG-3 /Army Artillery Group 3/. Task: support PrK forces from the sector of Krušumlijska Banja if requested.

4. DECISION :

I have decided: To support MUP forces in the attack by engaging g/s /main forces/ on the following axes: Vitak village – Kladernica village – Broćna; Gornja Klina village – Lauša village – Turićevac; and Trstenik village – Likovac village – Donje Obrinje village; and p/s /auxiliary forces/ on the axis of Mlečane village – Murga village – Donje Obrinje village, and sealing off the line of Belica – Jošanica – Sićevo village – Cerovik village – Negrovac village – Kosmač, and inserting some of the forces into the general sector of Likovac village.

Objective: Seal off the ŠTS in the general sector of Kladernica village, Rakitnica village, Rezala village, Lauša village, Likovac village, Plužina village, Gornje Obrinje village and Donje Obrinje village, Makrmaļ village, Kosmač, Ovčarevo village, and Turićevac village.

From a flexible attack position, defeat and destroy the ŠTS on the attack axes.

Use some of the forces to prevent the ŠTS from retreating from the Drenica area and slipping through to the area of Mališevo and Baranski Lug.

Thereafter, keep roads passable and exert combat control over the territory.

The operation shall last two to three days.

Combat disposition:

- Forces for defeating and destroying ŠTS
- Forces for seal-off
- Forces for insertion
- Forces for support
- Forces for securing roads and controlling territory
- Forces for providing security of b/d /combat operations/
- Forces for command and communications.

To be in a state of readiness: to defeat and destroy ŠTS at 0500 hours on 26 March 1999.

5. TASKS FOR UNITS:

5.1. 37th mtbr /Motorised Brigade/ (BG-37 /Combat Group 37/) and TG-37 /Tactical Group 37/: To be brought in from the deployment sector on 25 March 1999 to the planned sector: Banja village, Rudnik village, Padalište village, and from the seal-off line: Belica village – Čitak village – Vitačko Brdo /hill/, supporting MUP forces in the attack.

T a s k : Support MUP forces in defeating and destroying the ŠTS on the axis of Rudnik village – Vitak village – Kladernica village – Vočnjak village – Bročna village; defeat and destroy the ŠTS in the sector of Leočina village – Kostre village –

Kladernica village; and as the first task emerge onto the line of Trnava village – Baljica village – Kladernica village.

Continue the attack, destroy any straggling ŠTS on the attack axes, and as the next task take control of the line of Čumursko Brdo – Oković village.

Use some of the forces to seal off the line of Velja Glava – Koleni Brdo (k /elevation/ 715) – Popova Glava (tt /trig point/ 747) – Baljica (tt 758), and prevent the ŠTS from retreating to the area of Baranski Lug.

Thereafter, keep roads passable and exert combat control over the territory.

KM in the sector of Rudnik village.

5.2. 125th mtbr (BG-125-1 and 6 and BG-252): From the seal-off line of Čubrelj village – Srbica village – Kruševac village, support the forces of the MUP and JSO /Special Operations Unit/ in the attack.

T a s k : Support MUP forces in defeating and destroying the ŠTS on the axes of Gornja Klina village – Lauša village – Turićevac village and Kruševac village – Rezala village – Donji Obilić village; defeat and destroy the ŠTS in the sector of Čubrelj village, Lauša village, Rezala village, and as the immediate task emerge onto the line of Rakitnica village – Gecaj Mahala – Delijaj Mahala.

Continue the attack, destroy any straggling parts of the ŠTS on the attack axes, and as the next task take control of the line of Gornji Obilić village – Ljutan – Donji Obilić village.

Use some of the forces (BG-125-6) to seal off the line of Sićevo village – Vranići village – Goleš (tt 572) and prevent the withdrawal of the ŠTS to the Mališevo sector.

Thereafter, keep the main roads passable and exert combat control over the territory.

KM in the sector of Srbica.

5.3. 15th okbr /Armoured Brigade/ (BG-15-1 and 2): From the seal-off line of Poluža village – Makrmalj village – Likovac village – Tica village, and Globare village – Kukić Mahala /several words illegible/ ŠTS in the sector of /several words illegible/ Banjica village, and as the immediate task emerge onto the line of Makrmalj village – Beženić village – Bok Trstenički – Domanek village – Krajkovo village.

Continue the attack, destroy any straggling parts of the ŠTS on the attack axes, and as the next task take control of the line of Tica village – Plužina village – Donje Obrinje village and Trdevac village.

Use some of the forces to seal off the line of Kosmač – Domanek village.

Thereafter, keep the main roads passable and exert combat control over the territory.

KM in the sector of Globare village.

5.4. 243rd mbr /Mechanised Brigade/ (BG-243-2): To be brought in from the deployment sector on 25 March 1999 to the planned sector in Lapušnik village and from the seal-off line of Orlate village – Balince village – Mlečane village, supporting MUP forces in the attack.

T a s k : Support MUP forces in defeating and destroying the ŠTS on the axes of Mlečane village – Murga village – Donje Obrinje village and Orlate village – Negrovce village – Vučak village; defeat and destroy the ŠTS in the sector of Pločice, Negrovce village and Golubovac village, and as the immediate task emerge onto the line of Vučak village – Golubovac village – Cerovik.

Continue the attack, destroy any straggling parts of the ŠTS on the attack axes, and as the next task take control of the line of Donje Obrinje village – Trdevac village.

Use some of the forces to seal off the line of Gradina – Bahremović Mahala and prevent the withdrawal of the ŠTS from Donja Drenica to Gornja Drenica.

Thereafter, keep the main roads passable and exert combat control over the territory.

KM in the sector of Mlečane village.

5.5. TG-252: To be brought in from the deployment sector on 25 March 1999 to the planned sector in Pograđe village and Stepenice village and from the seal-off line of Cerovik village – Zabrđe village – Dobri Dol village and Jošanica village – Bajrak, supporting MUP forces in the attack.

T a s k : Support MUP forces in defeating and destroying the ŠTS in the sector of Cerovik village, Dobra Voda village, Broćna village and Voćnjak village, and as the immediate task emerge onto the line of Petrovica – Dobra Voda – tt 588 – Mališgan – Beganović village – Voćnjak village.

Destroy any straggling ŠTS, and thereafter keep the main roads passable and exert combat control over the territory.

KM in the sector of Grabac village.

6. INTELLIGENCE SUPPORT:

Focus intelligence support on direct reconnaissance of the strength, composition, and disposition of the DTS /sabotage-terrorist forces/ on the attack axes.

Pay particular attention to the protection of information and documents against loss, and the protection and conveyance of orders over communications system.

7. SECURITY SUPPORT:

While carrying out the task, implement the measures ordered for the protection of personnel and SRT /combat hardware/. Take particular measures to prevent casualties caused by booby traps and when opening fire while sealing off the ŠTS in inhabited areas.

8. COMBAT SECURITY:

While conducting the attack, use a suitable deployment to provide security against surprise terrorist operations, and pay full attention to protecting the wings and flanks.

During the attack, focus security on the protection of combat vehicles against the actions of the ŠTS from close range, particularly in inhabited areas and wooded terrain.

9. MORAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL SUPPORT:

In all units, as part of the preparations for the task, conduct direct moral and psychological preparations to ensure the motivation and readiness of the men.

Demonstrate the required proper behaviour towards the loyal civilian population, and particularly towards refugees and the property of civilians. With representatives of the media, act in accordance with the orders issued. Open fire on features from which the ŠTS fire. During combat operations forbid entry into houses and other buildings in the field.

10. LOGISTICAL SUPPORT:

PoOb /Logistical Support/ with reinforcement units shall be regulated by the commands of the units engaged, using their own forces and resources.

For conducting the task, the following levels of consumption are permitted:

- two b/k /combat sets/ of ammunition for infantry weapons, and one b/k for other weapons
- 0.5 p/r /tankful/ of fuel for all m/v /motor vehicles/

Repair any seriously damaged TMS /materiel and technical equipment/ with your own forces and resources, and by obtaining support from the 202nd PoB /Logistics Base/.

Care for the wounded with your own forces and resources, and if there any seriously wounded, engage an air ambulance by requesting it through the OC /Operations Centre/ of the PrK Command.

Provide the personnel with combined rations. Provide water from trusted sources. Ban the use of water from local sources in the area where combat operations are being conducted.

In all units organise PPZ /fire prevention/ in the deployment sectors and combat sectors, by organising fire observation and reporting. Engage establishment resources and men for fighting small fires.

Seal off and secure any areas affected by large fires, and after the completion of combat operations bring them under control by engaging MUP fire-fighting units.

After questioning any persons taken into custody, hand them over to the MUP organs for further processing.

Any weapons, ammunition or other combat equipment seized or found should be collected in the deployment sectors and then handed over to /?organs/ of the 202nd PoB. Be on the lookout for booby traps when collecting abandoned or found combat equipment.

11. COMMAND AND COMMUNICATIONS:

The PrK KM shall be in the building of its peacetime location.

Maintain communications with the PrK Command and subordinate units as per the existing communications documents, and without fail use the general KZ /cryptographic data protection/ documents.

Communications to be ready at 0400 hours on 26 March 1999.

Signals: as per the signals table.

12. Send reports:

- a) Regular reports
 - on readiness to conduct the attack
 - daily by 1800 hours, on the situation at 1700 hours
 - after completion of the task
- b) Interim reports
 - as necessary

13. Organise coordinated action with MUP forces concerning preparations for combat operations before the start and during the combat operations.

The Joint Command for KiM shall command and direct all forces during combat operations from the Priština sector.

JOINT COMMAND FOR KiM