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**COMMAND of the 37<sup>th</sup> mtbr** /Motorised Brigade/  
**Strictly confidential number** 230-1  
**21 April 1999**

**MILITARY SECRET**  
**STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL**

**Copy number**       /?1/      

**U R G E N T**

**Report with recommendations**

**To: PrK /Priština Corps/  
 Command**

**1. THE ENEMY:**

Regardless of the measures taken to scatter and destroy the ŠTS /Šiptar /Albanian/ Terrorist Forces/ in the z/o /zone of responsibility/ of the Brigade, the enemy, using his familiarity with the territory, the cover of night, ambushes, the size of the z/o and the disposition of our forces, with active and surprise attacks, inflicted losses to the forces of the Brigade and disrupted the securing of the z/o. This was how in the night of 20 April 1999, the car of the Commander of the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion of the 37<sup>th</sup> mtbr was ambushed and fired on by a RBR /hand-held rocket launcher/ in the sector of Istok Mahala (Trstenik village), killing the battalion commander and the other passengers (a total of six men). The ŠTS attacked from the slopes of Mt. Kosmač (Ljek Mahala), Dobrostan hill, Mt. Drenica and Mt. Petrovica, and from Mt. Čičavica. The intensified activity of the ŠTS on all axes and parts of the z/o has been a major impediment to supply, delivery, evacuation and properly securing the z/o, especially the second b/e /combat echelon/ of the Brigade. A special characteristic has been the use of modern weapons (RBR, SPu /sniper rifles/ with PN /passive scope/ and laser markers that react to metal on equipment – the helmet, RU /radio/, etc.) and a number of ABG /expansion unknown/.

**2. The current disposition of the Brigade:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> mtb /Motorised Battalion/ in the sector: Balince village-Orlate village-Lapušnik village (as per the decision for defence)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> mtb in the sector: Veliki Đurđevik village-Cerović village-Sićevo village (as per the decision for defence, except for Mt. Petrovica, where a large group of ŠTS was observed)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> mtb in the sector: Čirez village-Godanjce village-Likošan village (engaged in "Čičavica"), and with a part of the forces takes part in the Operation *Kosa-99*.
- okb /Armoured Battalion/ in the sector: Bukoš village-Taradža village-Brusnik village (today engaged in Operation *Kosa* on the axis: Taradža village-Balince village- Ošljane village-Ljubovac village)

- inžb /Engineer Battalion/ in the sector: Galica village-Dubovac village-Bečić village (today engaged in Operation *Kosa* on the axis Brčić village-Galica village-Mikušnica village).
- 105 mm had /Howitzer Battalion/ in the sector: with a part of the forces established a blockade on the axis: Čikatovo village-Goluša village (“Čičavica”) and with a part of the forces from the VPo /firing position/ in Baks village supported the forces in Operation *Kosa*, and with a part of the forces secured and organised a VPo in the sector of Krajkovo village.
- mpoad /Mixed Anti-Tank Artillery Battalion/ in the sector: with a part of the forces enforce a blockade of the axis: Glogovac-Raškovića Brdo /hill/-the railway tracks (Čičavica) and with a part of the forces secure and organise the POR /anti-tank sector/: Novi Poklek village-Glogovac.
- ardPVO /Anti-Aircraft Defence Light Artillery Rocket Division/ in the sector: Domanek village-Krajkovo village, while a part of the forces engaged on Mt. Kosmač for the protection of our forces and deployment.
- pozb /Logistics Battalion/ in the sector: Gornja Klina village – Srednja Klina village.
- The Command with the PJ /police units/ in the sector: Srbica
- The PKM /Rear Command Post/ in the sector: Donja Klina village

**3. The MUP forces** in the territory (second variant) remained at their positions and took no part in past operations. They do not leave the houses and buildings where they are billeted and have been busy slaughtering animals and gathering war booty. They have done nothing to control the territory and were completely inactive (they do not even enforce security within a 100 m radius of themselves).

#### **4. We recommend the following regarding the situation:**

##### **4.a. Recommendations:**

- following the completion of /Operations/ *Kosa* and *Čičavica*, with all the remaining forces of the Brigade continue to secure the assigned z/o in an organised manner, consolidate and tighten the b/r /combat disposition/ of the units, to be able to protect itself in this “tighter” formation from losses in case of surprise attacks by the ŠTS and undertake a/d /offensives/ on axes under threat.
- reinforce the Brigade with one more mtb, since with its current resources it has not been able to control and secure its entire zone, which, as you know, is the most complex one in the z/o of the PrK.
- all forces of the MUP in the z/o of the Brigade should be placed under the Command of the 37<sup>th</sup> mtbr and assigned to checkpoints and other selected sites, since their current disposition does not suit the tactical situation (we would assign them to our flanks, to control the territory, to specifically selected sites within the deployment).
- by engaging the PJP /Special Police Unit/ of the MUP again alongside some of our forces, /?successfully defend/: Dobrostan, Bok Trstenički and Gornje Obrinje and have the area secured by a part of the MUP forces (2<sup>nd</sup> variant) and held under the blockade of Kosmač.

##### **4.b. Requests**

- supply the unit with at least 10 Motorola radios (Midland or MT1000) in order to facilitate communications with at least immediate subordinates with the this type of communication,
- man the unit with officers as requested, give priority to Brigade Command officers, one or two commanders for the motorised battalions and a commander for the

reconnaissance company (provisionally, we can overcome some of the losses by reassignment within our unit),

- fulfil all requests submitted so far for PoOb /logistical support/,
- if possible, provide on trench digger, one mine-layer and one bull dozer as engineer support for fortification and obstacle construction.

**BBO/SD**

One copy made  
and sent to:

- 1 x a/a /files
- 1 x PrK Command

**COMMANDER**

**Lieutenant Colonel**

**Ljubiša DIKOVIĆ**

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