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PRI[TINA CORPS COMMAND
Strictly confidential no. 873-1064/1
26 September 1998

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VERY URGENT

To: COMMAND OF THE THIRD ARMY – IKM /Forward Command Post/

COMBAT REPORT

1. Enemy activities from the RA /Republic of Albania/ and RM /Republic of Macedonia/ against the FRY /Federal Republic of Yugoslavia/:

Intensive observation of FRY territory continues from manned border posts in the RA and the RM and UNPREDEP observation posts, with the use of optoelectrical and electronic monitoring equipment from the ground and from the air deep within the territory.

At 1400 hours on 27 August 1998, a helicopter took off from the UN base circled the Korab feature, and then flew off deep inside the RM territory. At around 1415 hours a UN personnel carrier came out and also drove around Korab and later set off towards the Macedonian border post.

2. DTS /Sabotage and Terrorist Forces/ activities

2.1 DTS activities against the VJ /Yugoslav Army/:

The DTS that were surrounded yesterday in the general area of Donje Obrinje and Gornje Obrinje and on the northern slopes of Mount Kosma~ put up very fierce resistance during the day (up to now, this has been the most fierce resistance offered by DTS) by firing infantry weapons, RB /hand-held launchers/, BsT /recoilless guns/ and 60-mm and 82-mm MB /mortars/ from elevated and fortified features in these sectors. These sectors are have been well reinforced by engineers, with bunkers, shelters, connecting and communication trenches. All approaches into the villages of Donje Obrinje and Gornje Obrinje have been obstructed with MEP /mines and explosives/ in combination with other improvised obstacles: parts of agricultural machinery, old cars, timber and other objects. There are lots of home-made MEP and mines with remote-controlled detonation.

Due to the losses suffered, the DTS have been crushed, some have been captured and some have surrendered. The most extreme part, which does not want to surrender, is currently surrounded in the Dobro sector (tt. /trig. point/ 843) and tt. 679 (1.5 km south-east of Gornje Obrinje village).

Well-reinforced features with signs of the terrorists, as well as inhabitants of local villages, having camped there were found in the area of Kosma~ mountain and the railway track and the tunnel in its vicinity. A large quantity of discarded uniforms with the UÇK /KLA/ insignia, weapons and other equipment were found.

During the day several hundred terrorists were captured. There are civilians who have fled and MUP organs are screening them and organising the return of part of the civilians to their villages. According to the information service, on 25 September 1998, 43 members of the DTS were killed and a large number wounded, which pretty much corresponds to our calculations. We estimate that during the day the DTS had 80 to 100 dead and several dozen wounded.

/text missing/

/.../ were killed in the attack: Miroslav SLOVI] (1974) from Kragujevac, policeman from the Z/?ubin/ Potok police station and Rajko RADOVANOVI] (1973) from Kragujevac, OUP /internal affairs organ/ policeman in Srbica, SUP /Secretariat of the Interior/ in Kosovska Mitrovica. Milosav TODOROVI] (1969), policeman from a PS /police station/ in Kosovska Mitrovica, Goran VUJISI] (1969), OUP policeman in Srbica, Ljubomir PETROVI] (1962) and Milomir JANKOVI] (1962), both SUP policemen in [abac and Radomir GAJI] (1971), OUP policeman in B/?ajina/ Ba{ta, were all seriously wounded.

Wounded policemen TODOROVI], VUJISI], JANKOVI] and GAJI] were transferred to the hospital in Kosovska Mitrovica, while policemen PETROVI], VUKOMANOVI] and VUKADINOVI] were taken to the KBC /Clinical Hospital Centre/ in Pri{tina and their conditions are currently not life-threatening.

2.3 DTS activities against civilians:

At around 2340 hours on 25 September 1998, an unidentified person threw four explosive devices (three by the gate and one by the school entrance) in the grounds of the *Kosta Vujinovi}* primary school in Podujevo, which damaged the windows on the school building. Nobody was hurt in this incident.

On the same day, [kodra HAKLJAJ (1984), Avdija HAKLJAJ (1984) and Sokolj HAKLJAJ (1984), all minors from Istini} village, De~ane SO /municipality/, sought help in the general hospital in Pe} for hand and stomach injuries. According to the statements they gave to the police, at around 1700 hours on 24 September 1998, they were taking care of cattle near the River Bistrica. There they found an unidentified explosive device. Wanting to check it out, they detonated the explosive device which caused the said injuries.

There are grounds to suspect that the explosive device was left by *fiptar* /Albanian/ terrorists after armed actions, when they were withdrawing from this area.

On 25 September 1998, Atnan VEZAJ (1973) from @ur village, Prizren SO, reported to the SUP in Prizren that while he was driving a Peugeot 405, number plate PZ 103-518, at 1630 hours on 7 August 1998, on his way to Osli{te village, Prizren SO, he was stopped by a group of *fiptar* terrorists in camouflage uniforms, who were armed with AP /automatic rifles/, and was taken to the KLA headquarters in Je{kovo village. At the KLA headquarters he was beaten, mistreated, questioned and kept in an improvised prison for 15 days and then released. They also took his vehicle, the vehicle registration and driving license, drove the car to Je{kovo village and pushed it off a cliff, destroying it.

In his statement, VEZAJ also says that there were two other abducted people in this prison: Zenelj KARENEZI from Stru`je village and \emajlj \ILJIN\ERI from @ur village, Prizren SO. He does not know what happened to them after that.

3. The situation in the Corps units:

During the day, part of the Corps BG /combat group/ forces continued to support the MUP forces in crushing and destroying the DTS in the sectors of Gornje Obrinje and Donje Obrinje villages, north-west slope of Mt Kosma~, and the villages of Banjica and Vasiljevo. On the axes of the attack they overcame the DTS's fierce resistance from the area of Donje Dobrinje, Gornje Dobrinje and the north-western slopes of Mt Kosma~, and crushed them, capturing the majority, inflicting serious losses and surrounding those remaining in the sector of Dobro (tt. 843) and tt. 679 (sector 1.5 km south-east of the Gornje Obrinje village). The DTS in this sector are surrounded by BG-125-1, BG-15-2 and part of the BG-243-2. Other BGs, which were providing support to the MUP forces, returned to the barracks and are preparing to engage in forthcoming tasks.

Commanders of brigades received a task and carried out preparations; with some of the forces they have already taken over sectors to support the MUP forces in crushing the DTS in the general area of Budakovo village, Jezerska Planina /?Jezero mountain/ and Nerodimka. The BG-548-1 went into the Suva Reka sector, where it has started carrying out the task of supporting the MUP forces in crushing the DTS in the general area of Jezerska Planina.

During the intelligence work of the ROST /radar observation station/ P-15 in the radar network of the 31st OCS /?Operations Centre Station/ from 1400 hours on 25 September to 1200 hours on 26 September, a total of 96 targets were discovered, as follows: 11 over the RA, 20 over the RM and the other targets were discovered over our territory.

The Pioneers Platoon from the 352nd in`p /Engineers Regiment/ is engaged on laying mines in the Goro`up border post sector.

Other units and BG are successfully securing and controlling the territory in their zones and carrying out engineering work in the sector to create suitable conditions for the winter.

Morale and security in the units are very good.

4. The situation in the territory:

While searching the terrain in the Babaj Boks village sector, the 1st mtb /Motorised Battalion/ of the N[/Ni{ Corps/ two hunting rifles, one 7.62-mm PM /light machine-gun/ and one home-made rifle were found.

While mopping up the terrain, searching for *[iptar* terrorists, in the ^i~avica area on 23, 24 and 25 September 1998, members of the special police units arrested and

detained a total of 397 people of the *[iptar* ethnic minority for whom there are grounds to suspect that they took part in terrorist attacks against members of the police and the VJ /Yugoslav Army/. These people were handed over to the Priština SUP (269) and the Kosovska Mitrovica SUP (128) for processing by the crime investigation service. Of these people, 11 people were remanded in custody, 12 people were arrested and handed over together with a criminal report to the Investigating Judge of the District Court in Kosovska Mitrovica, because there were grounds to suspect that they had committed the crime of association for hostile purposes in conjunction with the crime of terrorism.

Twenty-five people were released after having been processed by the crime investigation department, and after a paraffin test, it was established that 36 people had traces of nitrate, indicating that they had fired a weapon. The other people are still being processed. In addition, a few dozen terrorists were killed in this action; amongst them was Fehmi LADROVCI, a well-known terrorist and one of the commanders of the *[iptar* terrorist organisation, the so-called KLA in the Drenica area. Fehmi LADROVCI also participated in battles against Serbs in the former republics of Croatia and BH.

On 25 September 1998, the *[iptar* inhabitants of Kosuri village, Pejë municipality, voluntarily handed over the the Pejë SUP weapons they received from the *[iptar* terrorist organisation, the so-called KLA: two semi-automatic rifles and one ammunition clip for an AP /automatic rifle/, all made in China.

On 25 September 1998, Agim DERVISHI from Staro Ćikatovo village and Skender ARLATI from Trstenik village, Glogovac SO, members of the *[iptar* minority voluntarily /text missing/ /text missing/ organisation, the so-called KLA /text illegible/ full ammunition clip/s/.

5. I HAVE DECIDED:

Continue reinforced in-depth security of the DG /state border/ with the RA and the RM; decisively and energetically prevent all penetration by the DTS into our territory and crush the straggler groups of terrorists in the border area, with the focus on the Junik mountains, Paštrik mountain and Koritnik and the *M. Vojnovi*}, Jafa Prushit, Liken and Godenk. /border posts/ in the 53rd gb /Border Battalion/ and Gorop, Vrbnica and *M. Stojanovi* /border posts/ in the 55th gb, and the axes leading to Babaj Boks, [iman and \akovica.

BG-125-1, BG-15-2 and part of the BG-243-2 shall continue to support the MUP in completely crushing the DTS surrounded in the Gornje Obrinje village sector.

BG-243-1, 2, 3, 4, the 3rd bVP /Military Police Battalion/, BG-15-3 and BG-549-1 shall continue to support the MUP forces in surrounding and crushing the DTS in the general area of Budakovo village, Jezerska Planina and Nerodimka, in accordance with the decision by the Corps Commander.

Combat control of the territory and roads to be carried out in accordance with the plan and in the allocated zones of responsibility.

Prevent any reconnaissance by directly securing units in the areas of redeployment and while on the move, and prevent ambushes by DTS through combat security.

Continue the engineering work in the areas to create suitable conditions for the units during the winter.

6. Supplementary report (for previous day):

In the night between 25 and 26 September 1998, DTS several times attacked a MUP checkpoint in Nerodimlje village. There were no consequences for the MUP forces.

At around 1500 hours on 25 September 1998, Major Dragan TRIFUNOVI] (son of Nenad) from VP /Military Post/ 8365 Kosovska Mitrovica, born 8 February 1964 in Kosovska Mitrovica, Serb, in the VJ since 26 July 1986, permanently residing in Lole Ribara Street 17/2, Kosovska Mitrovica, JMBG /personal identification number/ 0802964730023, was wounded by terrorists in b/d /combat operations/. Major TRIFUNOVI] is the Commander of BG-125-1. The wound is a entry-exit wound in the left thigh. He was transferred to the Pri{tina KBC / Clinical Hospital Centre/, where he was operated on and a 7.62-mm bullet was removed. He is currently in intensive care and his condition is not life-threatening.

7. Consumption of MS /materiel/ on 25 September 1998:

Consumption of ammunition as in the attachment to this report.

None of our TMS /technical equipment and materiel/ was lent to the MUP.

8. Requests:

There are no requests.

RM/I^

/stamp:
COMMAND OF THE THIRD ARMY
Sp. no. 6034-5/65
26 September 1998/

COMMANDER
Lieutenant General
Neboj{a PAVKOVI]

Telegram can be sent
HEAD OF DUTY OPERATIONS TEAM
Colonel
Bratislav PETKOVI]
/stamped and signed/

Attachment no. 1

S U M M A R Y
of consumption of ammunition on 25 September 1998

N o .	U N I T	INFANTRY AMMUNITION															/missing text /TEXT MISSING/										
		7.62 APu	7.62 PKT	7.62	7.65 APi	7.9 PASP	12.7 Brown-	12.7	14.5 KPVT	26mm	MTr-T	MTr-Os	MTr-D	ROB	60 mm MB	82 mm	82 mm BsT	120 mm MB	ZOLJA	OSA							
1	1 5 th o k b r																										
2	1 2 5 th m t b r																										
3	2 4 3 rd m b r																										
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S U M M A R Y
of consumption of ammunition on 25 September 1998

/Key to table:/

- okbr - armoured brigade
- mtbr – motorised brigade
- mbr – mechanised brigade
- 7.62/-mm/ APu – automatic rifle
- 7.62 PKT – machine-gun
- 7.62 PPi – semi-automatic pistol
- 7.65 APi – automatic pistol
- 7.9 PASP – semi-automatic sniper rifle
- 12.7 D[KM – heavy machine-gun
- 14.5 KPVT - heavy machine-gun

MTr-T – impact rifle grenade
MTr-Os – illuminating rifle grenade
MTr-D – smoke rifle grenade
ROB – hand grenade
60-mm MB – mortar
82-mm MB – mortar
82-mm BsT – recoilless gun
120-mm MB – mortar
ZOLJA – hand-held rocket launcher
OSA – hand-held anti-tank rocket launcher

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NOTE: All three units today showed only supplementary reports for 25 September because they delivered the reports which united consumption for 24 and 25 September 1998 late last night