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for files

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37th mtbr /Motorised Brigade/ COMMAND

MILITARY SECRET

Srbica KM /Command Post/

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

1000 hours 4 April 1999

/handwritten:/ Strictly confidential no: 121-2

Copy no. 1

37th mtbr COMMANDER'S ORDER to destroy ŠTS /Šiptar /Albanian/ terrorist forces/ and take combat control of the territory

SECTION: 1:50,000 Kosovska Mitrovica – 1, 2, 3 and 4.

1. INFORMATION ON THE ENEMY:

NATO forces continued their aggression against our country with air strikes and cruise missile attacks from a distance. They have absolute supremacy in airspace and apart from direct fire support from ŠTS, they are engaged in intensive reconnaissance from airspace. They are using all types of aerial bombs, cluster bombs and ammunition with enriched uranium.

ŠTS were smashed in Drenica, but not completely destroyed. Small groups of terrorists are still present in parts of populated places and wooded parts of the zone, and so far they have been observed in the sectors of Ošljane, Ljubovac, Gornje Prekaze, Mikušnica, Devičke Šume, Gradica, Likovac, Lauša, Gornje Obrinje, Donje Obrinje, Gradica /as printed/, Gladno Selo, Trstenik and Glogovac. Operating in small

groups, they are inflicting losses on MUP /Ministry of the Interior/ and VJ /Yugoslav Army/ units from an ambush and with sniper fire, disrupting regular supplies, introduction /of forces/ and deployment. They are mainly armed with infantry weapons, light PO /anti-tank/ assets and mortars. Expect more intensive action along all axes with the start of the third phase of aggression against our country.

2. UNIT TASK:

The 37th mtbr has the following task: in coordinated action with 252nd okbr /Armoured Brigade/, 15th okbr and Serbian MUP forces, engage in energetic operations to smash and destroy ŠTS in the zone as quickly as possible, secure the main roads and ensure combat control of the territory.

Be on stand-by to defend the assigned zone until further notice.

Supported by AAG-3 /army artillery group/.

KM in the Srbica sector.

3. ADJACENT UNITS:

On the right: 252nd okbr and 7th mtbr to smash and destroy ŠTS.

On the left: 15th okbr to smash and destroy ŠTS.

MUP units, the strength of one platoon, are in the zone and deployed as follows: a group of houses in Brabonjić village, Gradevci, Trnavce, Tomislav, Gornja Klina, Srednja Klina, Košutan Mahala, Srbica, Recaj Mala, Novo Selo, Gecaj Mahala, Gradina, Poluža, Makrmalj and Likovac.

4. I HAVE DECIDED:

Introduce and deploy the brigade/s/ in the zone: Obrinje village – Glogovac – Vučitrn – Kosovska Mitrovica (up to but not including), smash and destroy ŠTS in the zone, aiming to fully smash and destroy ŠTS in Gornja Drenica, Mt Čičavica and Kosovo Polje, secure the main roads through the zone and full combat control of the territory and create conditions for unhindered and organised defence. Achieve the goal in two stages in coordinated action with the adjacent forces, MUP forces, fire support, and relying on vantage points and populated places in the zone:

- First phase: smash and destroy ŠTS in the front part of the zone – in Gornja Drenica, paving the way towards taking combat control and organising defence, and
- Second phase: smash and destroy ŠTS in the back part of the zone – on the slopes of Mt Čičavica and in Kosovo Polje, achieving full combat control and ensuring that the roads are passable.

Combat formation: forces deployed to smash and destroy ŠTS, forces for fire support, for PVO, for active operations, the reserve, for logistics support, for command and communications.

Be on stand-by to smash and destroy ŠTS at 0900 hours on 5 April 1999.

4.1. TASKS FOR UNITS:

4.1.1. From the current sector, 1st mtb with tč /tank company/, one 30 mm double-barrelled sPAT /self-propelled anti-aircraft gun/ and one tpoab /anti-tank gun artillery battery/ are being introduced along the Turićevac village, Novo Selo axis and from the Kruševac village - Novo Poljance village – Doševačko Brdo line to smash and destroy ŠTS along the Novo Poljance village – Trstenik village – Glogovac axis. The

task: in an energetic operation, in a coordinated action with the adjacent forces and MUP forces, smash and destroy ŠTS in the assigned zone and as the immediate task, reach the Bok Trstenički – Hajdinović Mahala – Kamenica (tt /trig. point/ 692) line, then continue the operations and reach the Banjica village – Domanek village – k /elevation/ 571 – tt 653 line).

Proceed to take the Banjica village (up to but not including) – Godance village – Trstenik village defence sector.

Right border: k 660 – Makrmalj village (up to but not including) – tt 701 – tt 754 – Dobrostan (up to but not including tt 843).

Left border: Doševac village (up to but not including) – tt 720 – Grabljak (up to but not including tt 772) - Staro Čikatovo – tt 609.

Reinforce the point of convergence on the right and secure the point of convergence on the left.

Support provided by BrAG – 37 /brigade artillery group/.

KM at time of introduction in Grudić Mahala village (school). Next command post in Vrbovac village (school).

4.1.2. From the Tica village – Likovac village (a group of houses to the north) – Bežanić village line, the 2nd mtb with tv /tank platoon/ of the 37th okbr, one self-propelled POLO and one 30mm double-barrelled sPAT are engaged in smashing and destroying ŠTS along the Likovac village – Gornje Obrinje village – Trdevac village axis. The task: in an energetic operation, in a coordinated action with the adjacent forces and MUP forces, smash and destroy ŠTS in the assigned zone and as the immediate task, reach the Ovčarevo village (Drviš hamlet) – Škoza (tt 729) – Donje Obrinje village – Gornje Obrinje village (a group of houses to the north) – Bok

Trstenički (tt 754) line, then continue the operations and reach the Gola Strana – Cerovik village – Trdevac village – Banjica village (up to but not including) line. With some of the forces (up to the strength of one company), in a coordinated action with the 37th ard /artillery battalion/ of PVO and the Serbian MUP, from the tt 776 – Delijaj Mahala line block, search for, smash and destroy ŠTS along the Delijaj Mahala – tt 771 – Deviči axis.

Proceed to take the Ratovište – Banjica village – Likovac village defence sector.

Right border: the right border of the brigade zone.

Left border: Makrmalj village (up to and including) – tt 754 – Dobrostan (up to and including tt 843).

Reinforce the point of convergence on the right and secure the point of convergence on the left.

Support provided by BrAG – 37

KM at time of introduction in Makrmalj village. Next KM in Likovac village (school).

4.1.3. From the Baks village – Kožica village line, the 3rd mtb with hab /howitzer battery/ of the 105 mm had /howitzer battalion/, one 30 mm double-barrelled sPAT and tv of the 37th okb /armoured battalion/ are engaged in smashing and destroying ŠTS along the Haljitović village – Likošan village – Goluša axis. The task: in an energetic operation, in a coordinated action with the 1st mtb, smash and destroy ŠTS in the assigned zone and as the immediate task, reach the Kamenica – tt 624 – Makreš - Fazlovići village – Gradica village line, then continue the operations and reach the tt 653 – Goluša village (k 564) – Podi Godancit (k 812) line. Proceed to march along the Godance village – Prelovce village – Dubovac village axis and organise in-depth defence along in the zone yet to be determined.

Right border: Doševac village (up to but not including) – Grabljak (up to and including tt 772) - Staro Čikatovo (up to but not including) – tt 653.

Left border: the left border of the brigade zone.

Reinforce the point of convergence on the right and secure it on the left.

KM at time of introduction in Čirez village (school). Next KM in Gladno Selo village (group of houses to the north).

4.1.4. First phase: the T-55 (-2) 37th okb /armoured battalion/ with /two/ 30 mm double-barrelled sab /self-propelled artillery batteries/ of PVO, 37th ard of PVO, are engaged in the combat control of the territory along the Vučitrn – Brusnik village axis in coordinated action with the 37th inžb /engineer battalion/, the adjacent units and Serbian MUP units. On stand-by for active combat operations along the Bukoš village – Okraštica village – Hercegovno village, Bukoš village – Nevoljane village and Bukoš village – Vučitrn axes.

tč /tank company/ (minus the platoon) is to return to the battalion on 4 April 1999.

Be on stand-by to carry the tasks in the second phase and organise defence in the zone yet to be determined.

4.1.5. BrAG-37 comprising: 105 mm 37th (-1) had and 37th ard of PVO (-3 and -4).

The commander of BrAG-37; the commander of 37th 105 mm had.

VPo /basic firing position/ in the first phase in the Marina village – Pajrma Marine – k 616 sector.

VPi-1 /as printed/ in the second phase in the Hajdinović Mahala – Trstenik village – Dvoran Mahala sector.

Tasks:

a) first phase:

- supports the operations of 1st mtb along the Poluža village – Hajdinović Mahala village sector, laying down fire at the request of the 1st mtb commander,
- supports the operations of the 2nd mtb along the Likovac village – Donje Obrinje village – Gornje Obrinje village sector, laying down fire at the request of the 2nd mtb commander.

b) second phase:

- supports the operations of the 1st mtb along the Trstenik village – Glogovac village sector, laying down fire at the request of the 1st mtb commander,
- supports the operations of the 2nd mtb along the Gornje Obrinje village – Trdevac village - Donje Obrinje village – Murga village sector, laying down fire at the request of the 2nd mtb commander.

First phase: KM in Marina village; second phase: in Trstenik village.

Carry out adjustment with Kor.O /expansion unknown/ by combat readiness stage as per the decision of the BrAG-37 commander and NA /Chief of Artillery/.

An observation post as per NA's proposal.

4.1.6. 37th mpoab /mixed anti-tank artillery battalion/ (-1 tpoab /anti-tank gun artillery battery/) is engaged in the following tasks:

- first stage:
- from the road – Kruševac line, with available forces and in coordinated action with 37th ič /reconnaissance company/ and 37th ard of PVO, engaged in blocking, searching for and destroying ŠTS along the Novo Selo village – Kajevac (k 644) – Barjak (tt 759) axis.

With the rest of the forces on stand-by for active combat operations along the Velić village – Donje Prekaze village and Velić Mahala village – Džamijska Mahala – Kraljica axes, and for combat deployment and operations in accordance with the developments.

- second phase:

form a BrPOOd-37 /?Brigade Anti-Armour Detachment/ and take POR /anti-tank sector/ yet to be determined.

KM in the Velić Mahala village.

4.1.7. 37th ard of PVO (-3 and -4) is defending BrAG-37 throughout the time of the assignment.

Assign 1-3, 37th ard of PVO by crew to the motorised battalions.

2-3, 37th ard of PVO is being assigned to 37th okb throughout the time of the assignment.

4/37th ard of PVO is defending the brigade's zone of responsibility through deployment by squads.

First phase – with available forces from the Muslimansko Groblje – Kruševac village line, in coordinated action with 37th mpoad and some units of 2nd mtb is engaged in blocking, searching for, smashing and destroying ŠTS along the k 660 – Dević axis.

KM in Marina village.

4.1.8. 37th inžb is engaged in the following tasks:

- first phase:

search for, smash and destroy ŠTS along the Galica village – Ljubovac village – Galica village – Mikušnica village (5 April 1999) and Galica village – Bečić village

and Galica village – Taradža village (6 April 1999) axes, in coordinated action with 37th okbr, at the same time securing a section of the Dubovac village – Brusnik village road.

- second phase:

be on stand-by to secure the introduction of 3rd mtb and ensure combat control of the sector: Čečan – Krš - Galica village – Mikušnica village – Bečić village – tt 770.

In defence, form GOP-37 /Road Maintenance Group/, GDZ -37 /expansion unknown/, an engineer reserve force in the sector to be determined at a later date, and assign one pioneer platoon each /?to the battalion of/ the 1st combat echelon.

KM in Galica village (school).

4.1.9. 37th pozb /Logistics Battalion/ is engaged in logistics support of the brigade, focusing on securing the motorized battalions and BrAG-37, and in within this assignment, on technical and quartermaster supplies and support.

Supply and evacuation routes: Gornja Klina village – Grudić Mahala village – Trstenik village – Glogovac;

Gornja Klina village – Makrmalj village – Likovac village – Obrinje village;

Gornja Klina village – Džamijska Mahala village – Prelovce village – Likošan village;

Gornja Klina village - Džamijska Mahala village – Dubovac village – Galica village and Gornja Klina village – Šipolje village – Svinjare village – Bukoš village.

KM in Gornja Klina village.

4.1.10. 37th čVP /Military Police company/ is engaged in the following tasks:

- with one VP platoon, secures the KM of the brigade,

- with two VP squads, secures the PKM /rear command post/,
- with a platoon of SbVP /Traffic Military Police/, controls traffic and ensures the planned schedule is observed on roads in the zone of responsibility of the brigade, focusing on the Gornja Klina village – Srbica – Glogovac road – Grudić Mahala village; to establish StKSb /traffic control station/ in the crossroads sector near tt 682.
- with one VP platoon, to join the forces for active combat operations and be on stand-by for engagement when required and when the order is issued.
- with one VP squad to form a temporary reception centre for prisoners in the Srbica sector, location as per the decision of the NB /chief of security/ of the 37th mtbr Command.

4.1.11. 37th ič, deployed as forces for active combat operations from the line: a crossroads in Recaj Mahala village – a group of houses (500 metres north of tt 707), engaged in blocking, searching for, smashing and destroying ŠTS along the k 576 – Devička Šuma – Barjak (tt 579) axis in coordinated action with 37th mpoad and Serbian MUP units.

Second phase: be on stand-by to engage in smashing and destroying ŠTS when required and intervene along threatened axes.

4.1.12. 37th čv organises and establishes communications with the 37th mtbr KM and PKM as planned.

4.1.13. 37th KS /headquarters administration/ ensures that life and work of the Command and PJ /headquarters support units/ at KM and PKM of 37th mtbr.

5. APPROVED MTS /materiel and technical equipment/ CONSUMPTION:

The following ammunition, MES /mines and explosives/ and fuel consumption has been approved to carry out the tasks of smashing and destroying ŠTS:

a) infantry ammunition:

- to smash and destroy ŠTS 1 b/k /combat set/
- for defence 1 b/k

b) artillery ammunition, PO /anti-tank/ ammunition and rockets:

- to smash and destroy ŠTS 0.8 b/k
- for defence 1.2 b/k

c) tank ammunition:

- to smash and destroy ŠTS 0.8 b/k
- for defence 1.2 b/k

d) ARJ /artillery rocket unit/ PVO ammunition:

- to smash and destroy ŠTS 0.8 b/k
- for defence 1.2 b/k

e) explosives, PP /anti-personnel/ and PT /anti-tank/ mines – according to special deployment yet to be determined

f) fuel:

- to smash and destroy ŠTS 1 p/r /thankful/
- for defence 0.5 p/r

6. COMMAND AND COMMUNICATIONS

KM-37 in the Srbica sector.

IKM /Forward Command Post/ -37 on the sector of tt 682 (Staro Poljance village).

On standby for communications: 0700 hours on 5 April 1999.

Reports:

- regular, daily by 1800 hours, with the situation at 1700 hours.
- interim: on readiness for first phase at 0800 hours on 5 April 1999, and then when required – immediate.

COORDINATED ACTION AND COOPERATION

Organise coordination as follows:

- with 7th pbr – I make of NOONP /Chief of Operations and Training/ responsible,
- with 252nd okbr – I make the 2nd mtb Commander responsible,
- with 15th okbr – I make the 1st mtb Commander and NOONP of 37th mtbr responsible.

Organise cooperation in the zone with Serbian MUP units and carry out specific tasks in coordinated action with them.

Specify all elements of cooperation and coordinated action by 0800 hours on 5 April 1999 at the latest.

BBO/SD

COMMANDER

Lieutenant

One original

Ljubiša DIKOVIĆ

and 15 copies made

/signed and stamped/

and forwarded to:

- files of 37th mtbr Command

- all units

DRAFT TRANSLATION

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