

/Round stamp on each page: MILITARY POST NO. 1122-1, BELGRADE/

COMMAND OF THE 3rd ARMY
Strictly confidential No. 26-92
4 April 1999

U R G E N T

TO THE GENERAL STAFF OF THE YUGOSLAV ARMY
- OPERATIONS CENTRE -

COMBAT REPORT

From 1800 hours on 3 April to 1800 hours on 4 April 1999

1. THE ENEMY:

1.1. Activities of the OS /Armed Forces/

The aggressor's activities continued with focus on infrastructure facilities with the aim of reversing the situation to his advantage.

Mainly KR /cruise missiles/ and BA /bombers/ (F-117) were used for the attack. It is characteristic that only the American aviation engaged in destructive operations. NATO's total PS /Naval Forces/ in the Mediterranean were strengthened with the UG /expansion unknown/ NA /aircraft carrier/ "Th. Roosevelt" so that now in the south Adriatic and Ionian Seas there are 20 battleships and 4 nuclear submarines. Of that, 12 vessels are armed with "Tomahawk" cruise missiles, this increasing their total number by 145.

An order has been issued for the UG NA "T. Roosevelt" to join NATO forces in the attack on the FRY /Federal Republic of Yugoslavia/ and it is expected to sail into the Adriatic on 5 April.

NATO aviation will continue its strikes on vital facilities in the FRY. Thermal- and hydro-power stations, gas installations, fuel depots, bridges, large road junctures, railway hubs, telecommunications facilities and other will come under attack. As it has used up the planned cruise missiles, it is most probable that aviation will attack these facilities over a period from 5 – 7 days.

NATO plans to scare the civilian population with air strikes and in that way, over the following 5 – 7 days, to cause massive emigration from KiM /Kosovo and Metohija/ which will enable decisive air strikes to be undertaken, their aim being the total destruction of VJ /Yugoslav Army/ units.

The border units of the armed forces of neighbouring countries are still in a state of full combat readiness. Macedonia has called a partial mobilisation, with the aim of strengthening border security towards the FRY with a view to preventing the forcible entry of refugees from KiM to its territory.

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1.2. Electronic operations are intensive, especially during sorties.

2. THE SITUATION AND ACTIVITIES IN ARMY UNITS:

2.1. Activity, effects, consequences and other:

- The 7th pbr/ Infantry Brigade of the NK /Niš Corps/ has, except for a small part, been brought from Kruševac and resubordinated to the Command of the PrK /Priština Corps/ in the sector of Đurakovac.

Part of the mobilised units of the 211th okbr /Armoured Brigade/ has been brought to the Brigade in the sector of Podujevo. A total of 40 officers, 22 non-commissioned officers, 359 conscripts, a total of 421 men, 2 M84 tanks, 2 M-80 BVP /infantry combat vehicle/, 2 BTR /armoured personnel carrier/ 50 PU /expansion unknown/, 5 122 mm SO /self-propelled guns/ /and/ 2 dosers, were sent to the 211th okbr.

- Mobilisation of the 175th od /Detachment/ of the 175th pbr of the NK and of the 354th od of the 354th pbr of the PrK, started on 4 April at 0600 hrs.

- The reserve commanding officers of the 9th and 23rd pbr were mobilised. A total of 285 RVS /reserve commanding officers/ of the 9th pbr or 70%, and 349 or 96% of the 23rd pbr responded.

- The 1st Battalion – DSVLR /self-propelled multiple rocket battalion/ “Oganj” of the 203rd mabr /Mixed Artillery Brigade/ was resubordinated to the PrK in the sector of Lipljan (officers – 3, non-commissioned officer – 1, VPU /contract soldiers/ - 6, conscripts – 21, total – 44;/ 4 128 mm “Oganj” launchers and 7 motor vehicles).

A team of the Command of the 3rd Army headed by the PkPo/Assistant Commander for Logistics/ toured the 202nd PoB /Logistics Base/ and the Command of the PrK with a view to establishing the situation and functioning of the system of PoOb /logistic support/ and damage to the infrastructure facilities for PoOb.

During the march, on the road from the village of Rudare to the village of Merdare, in the sector of the village of Rudare, around 1300 hours, an M-80 VVP /?military police vehicle/ slid from the road onto the railway track. On that occasion conscript Marko /father’s name Miomir/ MLADENović, born on 18 October 1974 in Niš was killed, three persons sustained grave and 6 light injuries. All the injured were transported to the Military Hospital in Niš. A military investigating judge carried out an on-site investigation. A detailed report on this incident will be submitted subsequently.

Military Prosecutor’s Offices have admitted for processing 144 criminal reports and have so far submitted to the competent military courts 123 requests for conducting investigations, 3 soldiers have been charged so far with the criminal offence of absence without leave and flight from the VJ, 2 soldiers with the criminal offence of seizure of vehicle and 4 conscripts with the criminal offence of failure to respond to the call up and evasion of military service. Since the proclamation of a state of war to 1200 hours of 4 April, first -instance military courts on the territory of the 3rd Army received 123 requests for conducting investigations. First-instance courts have conducted 21 on-site investigations so far.

3. MANNING LEVELS OF THE ARMY ACCORDING TO WARTIME ESTABLISHMENT:

3.1. Manning levels

Manning levels of the 3rd Army according to wartime establishment:

a) officers allocated 9, 363, manning level 5,166 or 55%,

- b) non-commissioned officers allocated 7, 410, manning level 4,420 or 60%,
- c) soldiers allocated 113,998, manning level 66,192 or 58%.

Total allocated 130,772, manning level 75,778 or 58%.

The following members of the reserve force are in Army units:

- officers 3,113, non-commissioned officers 2,428, soldiers 46,340. Total: 51,881.

295 volunteers are undergoing training.

3.2. Casualties:

With regard to the previous report losses increased by:

- a) 18 killed (officers – 4, non-commissioned officers – 1, soldiers – 13),
- b) 9 injured (officers – 1, soldiers – 8).

Recapitulation:

So far, in Army units, 43 persons (officers 10, non-commissioned officers 4, soldiers 23, contract soldiers 2 and conscripts 4) have been killed and 60 persons (officers 15, non-commissioned officers 4, soldiers 37, contract soldiers 3 and civilians in the Yugoslav Army – 1) injured.

4. STATUS OF ARMY MORALE:

The combat morale in the commands and units of the Army is at a high level. Unity, motivation and readiness for defence are at a level ensuring the successful discharge of all combat missions.

The commands and units are immune to any PPD /political and propaganda activity/ of the aggressor. There are no adverse practices and indicators which would adversely affect morale.

5. ARMY SECURITY STATUS:

Continuous air strikes and intensive political and propaganda activities of the enemy did not have a significant effect on the security situation in the commands and units of the Army. The effects of the activities of the aggressor NATO aviation on civilian facilities behind the lines are counter-effective, only reinforcing the resolve of members of the VJ and citizens to defend the homeland.

With a view to suppressing criminal activities and looting in combat operations, mixed checkpoints comprising organs of the military and civilian police have been set up on all important roads leading from Kosovo and Metohija.

6. COMMAND AND COMMUNICATIONS STATUS OF THE ARMY:

By the time of sending the report at 2130 hours combat reports had not been received from the PrK, the 202nd PoB and the Priština VOK /Military District/, so that this combat report does not contain data from the above-mentioned units. We shall send them to you when we receive them.

The planned links with the IKM /Forward Command Post/ of the 3rd Army from the new location were realised during the day.

There were no major changes with regard to the previous period in respect of other communications.

A total of 329 telegrams were processed, of which 196 outgoing and 133 incoming.

7. LOGISTICAL SUPPORT OF THE ARMY:

7.1. PoOb /logistical support/ status according to elements:

Logistic support is functioning as planned and has been organised with emphasis on the repair of TMS /materiel and technical equipment/ which is damaged and out of order and the replenishment of PoOb providers according to request. The manning of rear units is as follows: the 186th tnb /technical training battalion/ - 47%, 147th inžb /engineers battalion/ - 23.6%, the Niš VB /Air Force Base/ - 86%, the 19th ZPMZ /Preventive Health Care Institute/ - 87.3%, the 559th atb /transport battalion/ - 32.1%, the 201st PoB /Logistics Base/ - 70%, the 202nd PoB - 66.2%.

Technical support:

Engaged in Army units are 8 crews of the brp maintenance support battalion of the PoB/ Logistics Base/, 6 crews of the Čačak TRZ /Maintenance and Repair Depot/ and 5 enterprise crews with a total of 91 mechanics. Crews of the 201st PoB are repairing the damage in the 236th SkPg /fuel depot/ after strikes from the airspace. Units of the 3rd Army (and reinforcements) have replenished their expended quantities of ammunition and PgMS /fuel, etc./.

The supply of units in the area of KiM with fuel is proceeding with difficulty because it is not possible to use the existing quantities of fuel from the Slatina Depot (damaged decanting point).

53 freight motor vehicles, large, 22 ACG /fuel tanker/ and /29/ other motor vehicles with 650 men have been engaged for moving RMR /war equipment and materiel/.

Quartermaster support:

Food reserves have dropped to requirements for 2-3 days. /15 tonnes of meat and 4.8 tonnes of processed meat products have been received from suppliers.

Medical support:

Functions continuously and without interruption.

7.2. Casualties:

In units of the PrK 3 soldiers sustained grave injuries and, due to the overturning of a motor vehicle, one conscript was killed and 9 sustained grave or light injuries.

7.3. Expenditure of ammunition, UbS /lethal assets/ and MES /mines and explosives/:

- 13,300 pcs. of 7.65 mm for PA /anti-aircraft/,
- 420 pcs. of 7.62mm /bullets/ for Pi /pistol/,
- 300 pcs. of 7.9 mm for SnP /sniper/
- 2,490 pcs. of 12.7 mm,
- 36 pcs. of 105 mm high-explosive bullets,
- 51 pcs. of 105 mm TF /contact fuse/ bullets,
- 51 pcs. of 120 mm /bullets/,
- 4 pcs. of 57 mm high-explosive mines.

7.4. Expenditure and relocation of PgS /fuel, etc./:

80,503 litres of D-2 and 21,383 litres of petrol were consumed. 360 tonnes of D-2 and 616 tonnes of related resources were relocated during the day.

8. FOCUS OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE FOLLOWING DAY:

- undertaking measures to protect units from possible operations from the airspace,
- redressing the consequences of NATO forces operations from the airspace,
- replenishing units with means for life and work and expended quantities of ammunition, lethal assets and equipment and materiel,
- training of volunteers with focus on firing drills,
- combat training with mobilised RVS /reserve commanding officers/ in the 9th and 23rd pbr /Infantry Brigade/,
- relocation of war reserves of lethal assets, PrPS /expansion unknown/, InPS / In -- quartermaster, PS -expansion unknown/ and SnPS /Sn – medical corps– PS - expansion unknown/,
- continuation of mobilisation of the 175th od /detachment/ of the 175th pbr of the NK and of the 354th od of the 354th pbr of the PrK,
- bringing the mobilised personnel of the 211th okbr /armoured brigade/ of the NK to the Brigade,
- forming a VTO /military territorial district/ in the Priština VOK,
- a team of the Command of the 1st Army shall continue to tour its units resubordinated to the PrK.

9. CONCLUSION:

The air force operation continues, without any indicators showing that NATO activities against our country will stop. With the inclusion of the UG NA "Th. Roosevelt", operations will intensify against the units and facilities of the 3rd Army with the aim of causing the greatest possible losses in personnel and materiel and equipment on our forces.

NM/BP
C O M M A N D E R
COLONEL GENERAL
 Nebojša PAVKOVIĆ

TELEGRAM MAY BE SENT
 HEAD OF ODT /DUTY OPERATIONS TEAM/
C O L O N E L
 Nikola MANIĆ

Copy to: IKM /Forward Command Post/ of the 3rd Army (for information)

/Stamps:/

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Translation

This is a true photocopy of the original:
Colonel S. VUJIĆ
/signed/

4 April 1999
YUGOSLAV ARMY GENERAL STAFF
SECTOR FOR /ILLEGIBLE/
OPERATIONS ADMINISTRATION
Strictly confidential No. /?4/67-1