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RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE HEAD OF THE STATE BORDER GUARD UNIT ON THE ORGANIZATION OF COMBATING ENEMY SABOTAGE AND RECONNAISSANCE GROUPS

The scientific article, based on the analysis of the actions of the enemy's subversive reconnaissance groups and the combat experience of the border units in their destruction, summarizes the purpose, objects and capabilities of the state border guard unit in relation to the organization of the fight against the enemy's DRGs. The content of the work of the head of the border unit regarding the organization of actions of the border unit regarding the search for the enemy's DRG has been specified and revealed. Based on the experience of actions of the PRYKZ, tactical role-playing games, practical comprehensive practical classes, a variant of the content of the work of the head of the border unit is proposed. A feature of the developed recommendations is their practical orientation. They are intended for the heads of border units, in the areas of responsibility of which crisis situations may arise. Taking into account the developed recommendations will avoid erroneous decisions, rationally prepare the unit for actions, and also improve the efficiency of the work of the relevant managers.

Keywords: *state border protection unit, armed struggle, sabotage and intelligence group.*

Statement of the problem. Under the legal regime of martial law, border guard units are involved in repelling the armed aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine by directly conducting hostilities, and are also involved in repelling the invasion of the territory of Ukraine by illegal armed groups (IAGs) and eliminating sabotage and reconnaissance groups (SRGs) [1]. The situation in the Chernihiv, Kharkiv and Sumy border guard detachments shows that the enemy is trying to use subversive reconnaissance groups directly on the border with the aggressor country. The use of such groups by the enemy is primarily aimed at mining the area, identifying our defense structure, "weaknesses" in order to further inflict damage from long-range weapons, as well as performing other tasks.

At the level of the Border Guard Service, the fight against SRG is usually organized and conducted in the form of special operations [2]. For its part, a state border protection unit (SBPU) can perform tasks independently, be attached to units of the Armed Forces of Ukraine (AFU) or be in reserve. Taking into account the rapidity of combat operations in modern conditions, the results of the SRG actions to destroy the enemy's subversive subversive group mainly depend on the ability of

the head of the border unit to make a quick managerial decision. This necessitates the need to offer recommendations to the chief of the SBPU on the organization of the fight against the enemy's subversive raiding group (SRG).

Analysis of recent research and publications.

The issue of combating IAGs and SDRGs has been raised in publications by scholars from various components of the security and defense sector of Ukraine. Among the analyzed sources [2–7] on countering enemy subversive sabotage and reconnaissance groups, the issues of content for planning a special operation in a brigade (regiment) were considered (O. Oleshchenko, H. Drobakha, I. Luhovskyi), recommendations of the HQ of the border guard detachments (O. Tsibrovskiy, R. Shchehelskyi), improvement of combat capabilities of the SBPU (O. Reznik, O. Kustynskiy, V. Havryliuk). In previous studies, the authors of the article also paid attention to the research issues [3, 5, 6, 11, 13]. However, with regard to the content of the work of the chief of the SBPU on organizing the fight against enemy sabotage and reconnaissance groups, these issues need to be clarified with due regard to combat experience and improvement of the tactics of the SRG, which is what determines the relevance of

this article and confirms the practical significance of the topic chosen for study.

The purpose of the article is to develop recommendations for the head of a State border guard unit on how to organize the fight against enemy sabotage and reconnaissance groups based on the combat experience of the border guard agency.

Summary of the main material. Taking into account the requirement of the provisions of the Combat Statute of the Land Forces of the AFU, the fight against enemy sabotage and reconnaissance forces (SRF) and IAGs is conducted by joint actions of mechanized units, units of other branches of the armed forces and special forces, units (bodies) of other military formations in order to detect enemy SRF and IAGs, block them, disarm them, and in case of resistance – destroy them [9]. In this regard, the SBPU, as a military formation that protects the state border, may be involved in the tasks of searching for, blocking, surrounding SRF and destroying enemy and IAG RS as part of other border formations or independently.

Existing combat experience can be used in the performance of tasks in the fight against enemy SRS and IAGs. Thus, border guard units are capable of searching, pursuing, and fighting the enemy, but it is necessary to take into account the peculiarities of training and modus operandi of the enemy's SRS and IAGs.

Actions in such conditions of the SBPU will be characterized by observation, inspection of the area, local objects, pursuit of the detected group, and interviewing the local population that has not left the blocking area. For this purpose, the unit will be assigned a strip of terrain. Its width will be determined by the nature of the enemy's actions, terrain conditions, and the availability of the SBPU forces and means. As in the conditions of special actions to search for offenders [6], the area of responsibility of the SBPU will include: the initial boundary and the final boundary of the search. To align the combat order of the search group units, clarify their relative position and direction of further movement, alignment lines will be assigned [10].

The state border protection unit will mainly conduct the search on foot. The pace of the search should ensure a thorough inspection of the terrain, buildings, structures and other objects on the way, as well as mutual fire cover for the actions of neighboring units. According to operational and tactical calculations, it can be as follows: in open terrain – 2–4 km per hour; in medium-rough terrain – 1–2 km per hour; in forested, marshy and mountainous terrain – 300–600 m per hour. When

searching for an enemy hiding in underground shelters, mountains, forests, and at night, the pace can be reduced by 2–3 times [9, 10].

The combat order of the airborne reconnaissance group may consist of: the combat line of the main patrol, the main combat line, the fire group, the airborne reconnaissance control, the reserve, the support group and the air reconnaissance group. If it is necessary to inspect objects in the search area, the combat order of the airborne reconnaissance units may change.

The airborne reconnaissance assets of the airborne task force are used depending on weather conditions and terrain, ensuring timely detection of the enemy and targeting of the airborne task force combat order. A group of armored vehicles operates behind combat lines and advances taking into account the terrain's passability. It can be used to maneuver in threatening directions, support the combat formations of the airborne forces engaged in combat with fire, destroy the enemy and ensure the retention of the occupied lines.

Regulatory acts [1, 9, 10] oblige the head of the SBPU to organize the cessation of all enemy actions related to illegal border crossing. However, they do not indicate the way to achieve the goal, i.e., how to organize such actions. The incompleteness of the requirements prompts the search for an answer to the question: what should be the sequence of actions of the chief of the SBPU to organize the fight against the enemy's SRF.

The study of the experience of the SBPU in combating enemy subversive groups, analysis of scientific works [2–7] and guidelines [1, 9, 10], generalization of materials of practical classes with future bachelors of state border security [8, 11, 12, 13] gives grounds to propose a sequence of work of the head of the SRF in organizing the fight against enemy subversive groups, which includes eight stages.

1. Realization of the combat mission.
2. Communicating a preliminary combat order.
3. Developing a preliminary plan of action.
4. Preparation of the unit.
5. Conducting a reconnaissance.
6. Completion of action planning.
7. Giving a combat order.
8. Checking readiness.

Let us consider in more detail the appropriate procedure and content of the work of the chief of the SBPU on organizing the fight against the enemy's subversive reconnaissance group.

At the *first stage* of his work, the chief of the SBPU must:

- study the combat task, realize it and understand who the object of the search is, where it is or may be, potentially where it is trying to go, its possible composition and tasks;

- calculate the time and determine how much time is available to prepare for a combat mission;

- determine the measures that need to be taken to prepare the SBPU team for future actions;

- define the task of the SBPU as a search group within the search group, methods of its implementation, search area or direction, time of search start and completion, starting and ending points, resting places, when and from whom to expect help, places of obstacles on the way and the procedure for overcoming them, the procedure for maintaining communication with the unit, the procedure for actions after the task is completed;

- determine in cooperation with which units of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, units of other military formations, state authorities and local self-government bodies the task will be performed; the order of subordination, location of the control point; forces and means allocated to support the SBPU; boundaries of the area of operations; peculiarities of the use of weapons and military equipment; the procedure for organizing management, interaction and other issues;

- decide which combat order to have, its composition, tasks for the elements of the combat order, and the order of operations.

The second stage is the formation of training tasks for the unit to prepare for future actions in the form of a preliminary combat order. It can be communicated to subordinates orally, but with a mandatory entry in the workbook of the chief of the SBPU, or in another way provided for by administrative documents. The content of the preliminary combat order may not be the same, because it cannot be predicted for different situations, but, in the opinion of the authors, the following will remain unchanged: information about the enemy; combat mission of the SBPU, to which it should be prepared; area of combat mission; priority tasks for preparing unit personnel, weapons and military equipment for future actions; tasks for reconnaissance of the enemy and the terrain; training measures for crews of armored combat vehicles (ACVs); measures to increase the security and passability of the combat vehicle.

Persons involved in action planning are assigned tasks to prepare initial data for the preparation of the SBPU for search operations.

The third stage is one of the most difficult stages of the work of the SBPU chief, as it involves

the development of a preliminary action plan for the unit.

The content of the action plan can be as follows: task analysis, development of action options, analysis of action options, comparison and selection of the final action option.

The analysis of the task makes it possible to answer the following questions: what the senior commander requires and expects from the unit's actions and the level of his support; who the neighbors are and their tasks; restrictions on the use of forces and means; the procedure for reporting the plan of action and work on the ground.

An important result of the analysis of the received task should be an understanding of the details of the unit's task: who (unit and composition of reinforcement), what (main combat task of the unit), when (time of start or readiness to perform the task), where (place of task performance), why (purpose of the unit's use) and formulation of auxiliary (intermediate) and special tasks.

The main task is a task that is determined by the senior commander in a combat order or combat (preliminary combat) order.

Additional (intermediate) tasks are tasks determined by the chief of the SBPU to fulfill the main task and achieve the purpose of the actions.

Special tasks are tasks determined by the chief of the SBPU to ensure the fulfillment of the main and additional (intermediate) tasks.

When developing a preliminary action plan, the SBPU chief must study: the possible nature of the enemy's actions, the capabilities of his forces and means, the terrain, which will allow him to conduct an initial risk assessment and establish the likelihood of their occurrence, possible consequences and determine the level of their acceptability.

At the third stage, the SBPU chief also develops options for action.

Action options are defined as the identification of possible ways to perform the task. Their number depends on the specifics of the task and the time available for their development. The development of action options is based on an analysis of possible actions of the enemy's SRF, combat capabilities of the unit, capabilities of the senior chief's support forces and means, interacting units, and terrain, and consists of their formulation and graphical display.

When formulating possible options for actions, the head of the SBPU must necessarily foresee: the direction (directions, areas) of the concentration of the main efforts; the sequence of tasks with the determination of the order of advancement to the base camp and its occupation, occupation of

the starting line; construction of battle order; the list of objects that are not subject to damage due to environmental hazards, and those that ensure the livelihood of the population or have historical and cultural value; ways to repulse attacks by enemy subversive groups and IAGs with an indication of the order of fire damage to the enemy and measures to mislead him; restrictions regarding the conduct of actions and the use of weapons and military equipment; measures to ensure the safety of the civilian population and the procedure for providing them with humanitarian assistance, etc.

Action options are developed on diagrams that show the probable tactical actions of the enemy and the ways the SBPU can accomplish the task.

The analysis of action options is carried out in order to evaluate each of them. To evaluate them, an action scenario is conducted to visualize the order of operations of all forces and means, assess the strengths and weaknesses of your unit and the enemy, coordinate interaction issues and clarify its indicators.

If there is limited time to prepare actions, the drawing may not be held. In this case, the head of the SBPU independently chooses the most appropriate option and determines the issues and indicators of interaction.

At a certain time, the SBPU Head reports the plan to the senior manager. The plan approved by the senior manager is used for further action planning.

The result of the third stage is a preliminary combat order, the content of which corresponds to the information available at the time of its issuance:

- a) updated information on the actions of the enemy's subversive reconnaissance group and IAGs and the units involved in their search;
- b) the combat task of the SBPU, the area (place) of its execution;
- c) the plan of action;
- d) combat tasks for elements of the combat order;
- e) issues of management, comprehensive support of actions and indicators of interaction with a degree of detail that corresponds to the defined plan.

If necessary, the preliminary combat order may define tasks for further planning of actions and completion of training of units, necessary movement, and other data.

The fourth stage concerns the preparation of the SBPU for future actions. It is the longest in terms of time (it begins with the communication of the previous combat order to subordinates and ends with checking their readiness for action).

The list and scope of activities to be carried out depends on the available time, the state of the forces and means of the SBPU, the procedure and methods of action to search for enemy subversive groups and IAGs, the availability and condition of weapons and military equipment, logistical support stocks, etc. During the fourth stage, if possible, the personnel is manned and provided with weapons and military equipment, logistical support, personal protective equipment, etc.

The fifth stage is the stage of reconnaissance. It is carried out on a diagram of the unit's area of responsibility or a map. The head of the SBPU clarifies on the ground the data on the enemy's SRF and IAG (route of possible movement, places of shelter, rest, where they may be at the time of the search, places where they set up ambushes, etc.), the characteristics of the terrain in the designated search area (formation of the combat order, obstacles and the sequence of their overcoming, dangerous areas of the terrain, directions of use of the BBA, etc. It defines landmarks and clarifies tasks for elements of the combat order and other issues related to the search for SBPU, as well as determines demarcation lines, the position and tasks of neighbors, etc.

In case of additional or new data on the enemy's SRF and IAGs or the terrain, the selected course of action is amended and supplemented as necessary. Confirmed assumptions are turned into facts and used for further action planning.

If the situation permits, reconnaissance can be conducted before the senior commander approves the plan of action.

The sixth stage completes action planning. It includes detailing the issues of interaction, control, and comprehensive support.

When detailing the issues of interaction, the head of the SBPU determines the order of actions of the elements of the combat order during the occupation of the initial line, search, overcoming obstacles, detection of the enemy's subversive reconnaissance group and IAGs physically or with the help of UAVs, ambushing the enemy, destroying it, providing assistance to neighboring units, etc. The timeframe of actions, methods of mutual recognition and marking of their position and the position of interacting units are also determined.

In terms of control, the chief of the SBPU specifies: the place of his location (movement) and his deputy; the procedure for communicating commands (signals) to the elements of the combat order; the procedure for mutual notification and

information exchange; frequencies; call signs; control signals.

When detailing the comprehensive support of actions, the head of the SBPU should include issues of intelligence, tactical camouflage, engineering support, radiation, chemical and biological protection, moral and psychological support, logistics and technical support, medical support, etc.

The seventh stage. Giving a combat order. It contains the content of the task and the procedure for its execution by the unit.

The head of the SBPU in the combat order must provide for the following.

1. The objectives.
2. Necessary information about the search object.
3. The task of the SBPU, the search area or its direction, the time of the search start and its completion, the starting and ending lines, leveling lines and the time of reaching them, resting places, when and from whom to expect help, places of obstacles on the way and the procedure for overcoming them, the procedure for actions after the task is completed, and the combat order.
4. The tasks of neighboring units and the forces of the senior commander who provide us with assistance.
5. Tasks for the elements of the combat order and the order of their execution.
6. The order of communication and control signals.
7. Your place and deputy.

Eighth stage. Checking the readiness of the SBPU to search for enemy subversive reconnaissance groups and IAGs involves monitoring the implementation of training measures determined by the previous combat order and reviewing the unit's readiness for action.

Conclusions

Thus, in the opinion of the authors of this article, following the above sequence of work of the chief of the SBPU in organizing the fight against enemy subversive groups will allow to improve the efficiency of the work of the relevant managers and to take into account more fully the factors affecting the results of the unit's service and combat activities. In addition, taking into account the developed recommendations will help to avoid erroneous decisions, to rationally prepare the unit for actions to neutralize the enemy.

The materials of the article can be used in the practical activities of officers who organize the

actions of a border guard unit to search for and eliminate enemy subversive raiding groups.

The prospect of further development of this area is to study the methodology for developing options for the SBPU with preliminary action planning.

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**РЕКОМЕНДАЦІЇ НАЧАЛЬНИКУ ПІДРОЗДІЛУ ОХОРОНИ ДЕРЖАВНОГО КОРДОНУ
ЩОДО ОРГАНІЗАЦІЇ БОРОТЬБИ З ДИВЕРСІЙНО-РОЗВІДУВАЛЬНИМИ
ГРУПАМИ ПРОТИВНИКА**

Вирішено наукове завдання: розроблення рекомендації начальнику прикордонного підрозділу щодо організації боротьби з диверсійно-розвідувальними підрозділами противника з урахуванням бойового досвіду прикордонного відомства.

На основі аналізу дій диверсійно-розвідувальних груп противника та бойового досвіду прикордонних загонів щодо їх знищення узагальнено мету, об'єкти та можливості підрозділу охорони державного кордону відповідно до організації боротьби з диверсійно-розвідувальними групами противника. Уточнено та розкрито зміст роботи начальника прикордонного підрозділу щодо організації дій прикордонного підрозділу з пошуку диверсійно-розвідувальних груп противника. З урахуванням досвіду дій прикордонних загонів, тактичних рольових ігор, комплексних практичних занять запропоновано варіант змісту роботи начальника прикордонного підрозділу. Особливістю розроблених рекомендацій є їхня практична спрямованість.

Науковою новизною дослідження є варіант змісту роботи начальника прикордонного підрозділу щодо пошуку диверсійно-розвідувальних груп противника, який розроблено на основі досвіду дій прикордонних загонів, які виконують завдання з відсічі збройній агресії російської федерації, рольових тактичних ігор, практичних комплексних практичних занять. Особливістю розроблених рекомендацій є їхня практична спрямованість. Вони призначені для керівників прикордонних підрозділів, у зонах відповідальності яких можуть виникати кризові ситуації.

Дотримання розробленої авторами статті послідовності роботи керівника підрозділу охорони державного кордону щодо організації боротьби з диверсійно-розвідувальними групами противника дасть змогу підвищити ефективність роботи відповідних керівників та більш повно враховувати чинники, що впливають на результати службово-бойової діяльності частини.

Урахування розроблених рекомендацій дозволить уникнути помилкових рішень, раціонально здійснити підготовку підрозділу до дій, а також поліпшити оперативність роботи відповідних керівників.

***Ключові слова:** підрозділ охорони державного кордону, збройна боротьба, диверсійно-розвідувальна група.*

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