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PRINCIPLES OF CREATING BATTALION TASK FORCES OF THE NATIONAL GUARD OF UKRAINE FOR PARTICIPATION IN STABILIZATION ACTIONS

The principles of creating battalion task forces in the National Guard of Ukraine for participation in stabilization actions were proposed, their formulation, classification and systematization were carried out.

It was determined that the first group includes general principles that can also be taken as a basis during the formation of temporary organizational units to perform other tasks and functions assigned to the National Guard of Ukraine.

The second group of principles for the creation of battalion task forces includes specific principles that are characterized only for participation in stabilization actions.

Keywords: *stabilization actions, battalion task force of the National Guard of Ukraine, principles.*

Statement of the problem. Changes in the forms and methods of the armed combat that have taken place in recent years have had an impact on the organization of forces of military formations used by the parties to the conflict to achieve the goal of confrontation.

Alongside with the organic units, combined units at the tactical level, known as battalion task forces (BTFs), became an important element of the military structure.

The experience of using BTF by the defense forces of Ukraine under conditions of repelling full-scale Russian aggression confirms the success of their actions in performing various tasks. Among them, stabilization actions carried out by the BTFs of the National Guard of Ukraine (the NGU) on the de-occupied territories, in particular, in Kharkiv and Kherson regions, became especially important.

The functional autonomy of these temporary military units made it possible to effectively conduct stabilization actions in small populated places that turned out to be more rational compared to the use of full-composition brigades.

At the same time, stabilization actions on the de-occupied territories with the participation of the NGU formations will take place in the post-war period as well. According to the command staff of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine, the provision of the appropriate set of measures is planned to be carried out with the help of the forces

and means of assault brigades of the NGU (offensive guard) [1].

At the same time, when choosing the way to achieve the goal of this activity, advanced approaches and practices in the field of law enforcement actions and stabilization measures, similar to those identical formations of the European Union countries, will be taken into account [2].

Unfortunately, the above-mentioned organizational units that were not parts of the NGU until recently, currently do not have full-scale experience in performing the entire possible complex of tasks of stabilization actions in the assigned area (sector) of responsibility.

This also applies to the command and control organization of multi-agency formations in the case of joint application under the leadership of the command staff of the Guard.

Under existing conditions, the development of the theory of creation and application of the BTF of the NGU in stabilization actions, in particular, the definition of the purpose and main tasks of this process, as well as the assessment of the degree of its achievement and the results of implementation, is not possible without formulating the principles of the creation of the BTFs of the NGU for participation in stabilization actions that should be the basis of the relevant process.

Concerning this, the necessity arises to formulate the principles of creating the BTFs of the NGU for

participation in stabilization actions, the implementation of which will ensure the achievement of maximum success in the stabilization actions both now and in the future that determines the relevance of the proposed study.

Analysis of recent research and publications.

To date, the problem of the study of participation in stabilization actions of the structural organizational units of the security and defense forces of Ukraine of various departmental affiliations has been raised in a small number of scientific works [3, 4, 5].

The author of the article [3] reveals the essence of stabilization actions in the field of security on the example of the local non-international armed conflict and justifies the role and place of the NGU in such actions, in contrast to other components of the security and defense forces.

The work [4] systematized the experience and justified the need for the use of the State Border Service units of Ukraine in stabilization actions, defined their tasks and selected methods of their implementation. In the scientific work [5], the stabilization operation (stabilization actions) of the Armed Forces of Ukraine is considered as an isolated type of military (combat) actions that forms the basis of the concept of preventive deterrence.

Alongside, the analysis of the available scientific sources shows that the principles, which describe the theory of the formation of security and defense forces for the implementation of stabilization measures were not given proper attention. At the same time, well-founded rules for the creation of military formations of variable composition for the performance of assigned tasks, different from stabilization actions, and their management systems are given in scientific studies [6–10].

Thus, the author of the publication [6] formulated the general and specific principles of the use of the Armed Forces and other military formations during man-made, natural, and military emergencies. The article [7] summarizes the main principles of building a structure for managing security forces in the state.

The work [8] presents the interest, in which a system of principles for creating groups of troops (forces) of the National Guard of Ukraine was proposed, their formulation, classification and systematization were carried out. The author of the

study [9] formulated the basic principles of creating the National Guard task force for the localization of the armed conflict within the state and the requirements for it, which derive primarily from the principles of military art.

The scientific work [10] considered the modular principle of creating interservice formations of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, defined the main problems that arise while introducing the modular principle, and outlined possible ways to solve them.

However, the analysis of the cited scientific sources makes it possible to conclude that the formulated studies cannot fully satisfy the need of defining the principles of creating the BTFs of the NGU for participation in stabilization actions, since they do not take into account the specifics and scope of the tasks, the established restrictions on the use of means of destruction during their conduct, as well as spatial indicators of this activity.

The purpose of the article is to formulate the principles of creating battalion task forces of the National Guard of Ukraine for participation in stabilization actions.

Summary of the main material. The principles of creating the BTFs for participation in stabilization actions should be formed taking into account the conditions under which the troops perform their tasks, the role of the National Guard of Ukraine in the system of security and defense forces, as well as approaches to determining the rational composition of forces and means.

The article is based on the classification of the principles of creation of the BTFs given in the publication [6], which allowed formulating the principles of the use of the Armed Forces of Ukraine and other military formations in man-made, natural and military emergency situations.

In this article the concept "principles of creating battalion task forces of the National Guard of Ukraine for participation in stabilization actions" should be understood as the general requirements for building a rational composition of the BTFs, taking into account modern approaches and risks that arise in their application.

By analogy with the article [6], a classification of principles of creation of BTFs of the NGU is proposed (Figure 1).

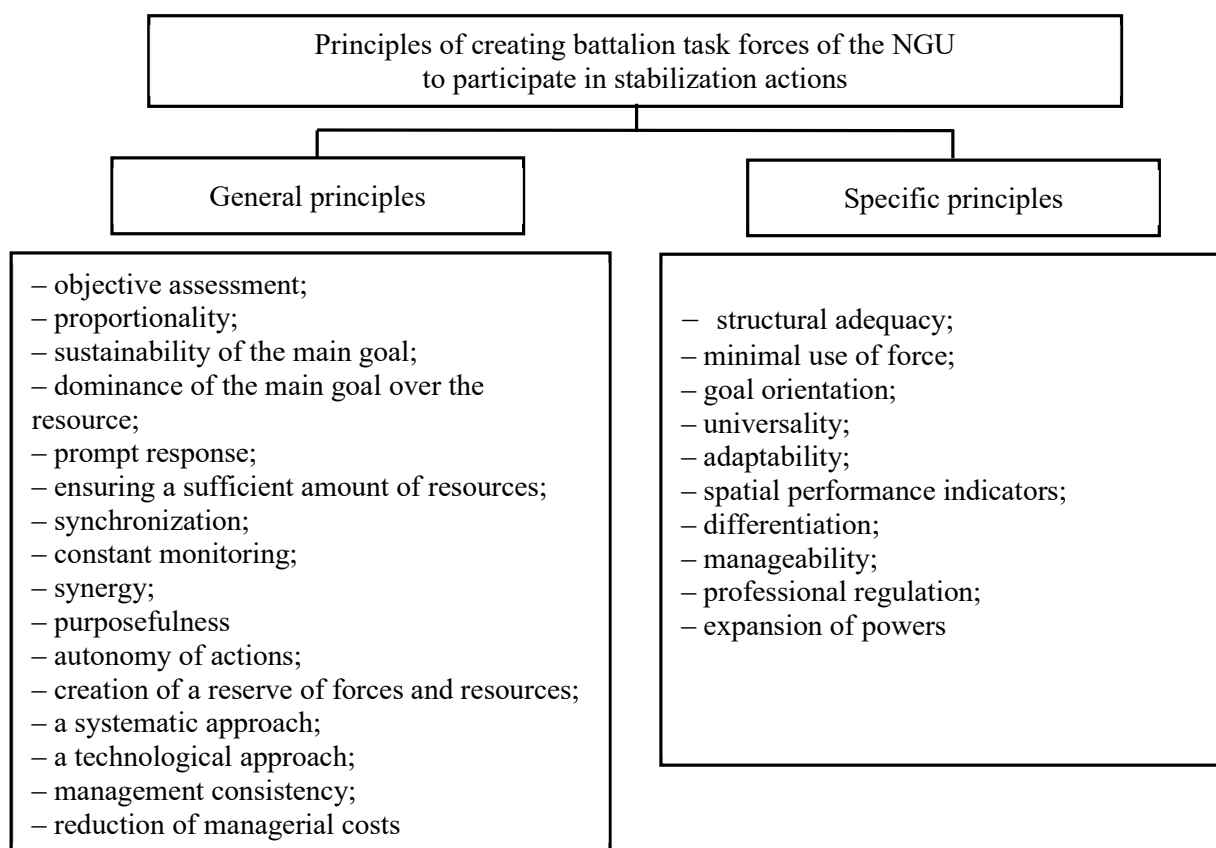


Figure 1 – Classification of the principles of creating battalion task forces of the National Guard of Ukraine to participate in stabilization operations

The first group of principles for the creation of BTFs of the NGU for participation in stabilization actions is effectually to define general principles that can also be taken as a basis during the formation of temporary organizational units to perform other tasks and functions assigned to the NGU.

The principle of objective assessment is fundamental and is based on the need to observe certain laws in the process of creating BTFs. Adherence to this principle requires commanders (supervisors) of higher level to use a scientific approach to create the BTFs of the NGU, not to take into account subjective approaches which can provide certain tactical advantages in performing some tasks of stabilization actions, but inevitably lead to a decrease of the effectiveness of the entire set of measures on stabilization of the situation in the crisis area.

The principle of proportionality boils down to the ratio between the costs of creating the BTFs and the final result (target effect) achieved thanks to its functioning. Of all possible options for achieving the goal, the one that makes it possible to achieve it with the least expenditure of resources and to ensure

the most effective performance of the tasks of stabilization actions is chosen.

The principle of sustainability of the main goal comprises the scientific justification of the fundamental goal of creating the BTFs of the NGU and ensuring the compliance of these temporary military formations with the current and projected conditions of the security environment, taking into account real and potential challenges and threats.

Changing the goal is possible only in case of radical changes in the situation after scientific study of the impact of the changed conditions of the main goal, if other ways of responding to changes do not allow adapting the controlled system to the new operating conditions. Any radical change in the main goal leads to the inexpediency of spending resources to achieve the previous one.

The principle of dominance of the main goal over the resource is the choice of such an option to achieve the main goal that makes it possible to achieve it through the least loss and expenditure of resources. A dangerous violation of the mentioned principle is the subjective tampering of the main goal with the

available resources, neglecting the objective requirements and conditions of the situation.

The principle of prompt response determines that at the stages of creation of the BTFs, depending on changes in the operational situation that affects the implementation of their combat capabilities in the designated areas of responsibility, the composition of these groups may also change.

The principle of ensuring an adequate amount of resources is that in order to create a BTF, it is necessary to have such an amount of forces and means that exceeds their necessary composition to ensure the performance of tasks.

The principle of synchronization is based on the fact that during the creation of the BTF of the NGU by forming separate elements (groups) of the order of battle, each of these elements must build a system of goals in which the goals of each element must contribute to the realization of common goals. To achieve such consistency, it is necessary for general and local goals to be specific and also to receive uniform information about the situation and possible future actions (predicted changes in the situation).

The principle of continuous monitoring boils down to the need to have a sufficient amount of reliable information during the creation of the BTF, which does not cause doubt, fully corresponds to the created situation, the actual state, position, actions and intentions of the enemy in order to make timely changes in the composition of temporary formations, attract additional forces and means. Assessing the situation on the basis of probable, doubtful and unreliable information will increase the probability of the occurrence of risk factors that can negatively affect the development of the situation and the successful completion of tasks created by the BTF.

The principle of synergy contains ensuring mutual coordination of actions of the constituent elements of BTF to achieve a common goal, which is based on the idea that the obtained result of activity is something more than just the sum of their individual actions. In other words, the interaction between the constituent elements leads to the creation of a certain system that solves the problem more effectively than its individual parts could do independently.

The principle of expediency provides for the definition and clear formation of the main goal of the activity of the BTF of the NGU at the stage of making a decision on their creation.

The principle of the autonomy of actions consists of providing the BTF with all the necessary resources for actions away from the point of permanent deployment within the defined area of responsibility for a long period of time.

The principle of creating a reserve of forces and means provides for the presence of additional forces and means in the composition of the BTF for immediate actions in case of a complication of the situation in the area of responsibility, solving tasks that suddenly arise, and increasing efforts to stabilize the situation.

The principle of the systematic approach requires the formation of a complete set of managerial solutions that will contribute to the successful implementation of the tasks defined by the BTF and ensure the achievement of the goal of their application.

The principle of the technological approach involves the wide use of modern computer technologies and decision-making support software during the creation (application) of BTF that will make it possible to increase the efficiency degree of managerial decisions under conditions of limited time and contribute to a quick response to changes in environmental situations.

The principle of management consistency is based on the fact that management decisions must correspond to the concept of the higher level commander, be aimed at achieving the ultimate goal of stabilization actions and be reflected in the actions of subordinate structural units of the BTF.

The principle of reduction of managerial costs involves giving lower level commanders the authority to independently make decisions and manage the execution of specific tasks in the event of loss of control or sudden changes in the situation, as well as entrusting them with full responsibility for the decisions made and the results of the actions of subordinate forces.

Among the specific principles of creation of BTF of the NGU that are characteristic only for participation in stabilization actions, the following can be singled out:

The principle of structural adequacy is that the created BTF should correspond to the task that is planned to be performed in terms of its composition of combat order elements, weapons, combat (special) equipment, other material and technical resources, and the level of professional training. The principle is fundamental in the presented classification since the organizational structure of the BTF is formed for the period of performance of certain tasks. It adapts to modern forms and methods of armed combat and is constantly developing.

The principle of minimum use of force is the limited use of the military potential of the BTF of the NGU during the execution of stabilization actions tasks. Achieving the goal of stabilization

mostly occurs through the implementation of the law enforcement component of the NGU.

The principle of goal orientation provides for the legitimate procedure, conditions, and limits of the use of the BTF established by legal acts to achieve specific goals of activity, taking into account all restrictions (prohibitions) that may be introduced during the special legal regimes operation.

The principle of universality is based on the need to form such an organizational structure of the BTF, which will ensure the simultaneous or phased implementation of a wide range of stabilization activities.

The principle of adaptability is reduced to the ability of battalion task forces to quickly adapt to sudden situation changes and move from one type of action to another. In the course of carrying out stabilization actions tasks, the BTF may receive tasks combating enemy sabotage and reconnaissance forces, and illegal armed formations. In this case, the actions of the BTF will involve conducting both offensive and defensive actions. In addition, each combat organizational unit of the BTF must be ready to replace or strengthen another one if it is necessary to restore its combat efficiency or in case of loss of personnel.

The principle of spatial performance indicators is based on the fact that the number of created BTFs of the NGU will depend on the size of the territory on which activities and tasks of stabilization actions are carried out, divided into areas of responsibility.

The principle of differentiation provides for the distribution of forces and means between the elements of the order of battle of the BTF depending on the priority of tasks during participation in stabilization actions. This principle is based on the need to prioritize sufficient resources and efforts to ensure the implementation of tasks that will have a greater impact on achieving the goal of stabilization actions in the near future.

The principle of manageability comprises ensuring such a quantitative ratio between the commander of the BTF and the forces subordinate to him, which will make it possible to carry out effective command and control over the military unit during the execution of tasks as assigned. When creating the order of battle of the BTF, it should be taken into account that the commander should not have at his disposal an excessive number of variable units or subordinate personnel with such a calculation to perform a larger volume of tasks.

This can complicate the coordination of actions, reduce the effectiveness of command and control over subordinate forces and lead to a disruption (significant complication) in their performance of this or that task.

In this case, in order to ensure the achievement of the defined goal of stabilization actions, it is necessary to provide for the creation of several BTFs.

The principle of professional regulation requires that each combat organizational unit operating as part of the BTF functions to achieve a specific set of goals and bears full responsibility for the results of the tasks assigned to it.

The principle of expansion of powers is based on the fact that, along with the performance of specific tasks and functions in peacetime, the military organizational units that will make up the BTF of the NGU must be ready to exercise additional powers assigned to them under the conditions of a special legal regime of emergency or martial law (during special period).

Summarizing the above, it should be noted that the given list of principles enables commanders (chiefs) and staffs of all levels to understand their content, the principles of functioning and the procedure for application during the creation of the BTFs of the NGU. Despite the fact that compliance with the specific principles does not guarantee complete success, ignoring them can lead to a decrease in the effectiveness of the BTFs actions when performing tasks as intended.

Conclusions

So, the article formulates the principles of creating battalion task forces of the National Guard of Ukraine for participation in stabilization actions, discloses their content, and conducts classification and systematization. The classification presented in the study considers the general and specific principles of creating the specified temporary formations, the fundamental of which is the principle of objective assessment and structural adequacy respectively. The obtained results are important for the above-mentioned process, as they form the theoretical basis for building a rational composition of battalion task forces and their effective use in the current and predicted conditions of the environmental security.

The implementation of these principles will make it possible to obtain a temporary military organizational unit of the National Guard of Ukraine with the necessary (required) indicators of the ability to perform a complex of tasks of stabilization actions in the designated area (sector) of responsibility. At the same time, if necessary, the group of general principles for the creation of battalion task forces can be used by commanders (chiefs) and their subordinate command and control bodies during the formation of

the forces of the National Guard of Ukraine of variable composition to perform other tasks and functions other than stabilization actions.

The line of further research is the ranking of factors affecting the composition and strength of battalion task forces of the National Guard of Ukraine for participation in stabilization actions.

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ПРИНЦИПИ СТВОРЕННЯ БАТАЛЬЙОННИХ ТАКТИЧНИХ ГРУП НАЦІОНАЛЬНОЇ ГВАРДІЇ УКРАЇНИ ДЛЯ УЧАСТІ У СТАБІЛІЗАЦІЙНИХ ДІЯХ

Запропоновано принципи формування батальйонних оперативних груп Національної гвардії України для участі у стабілізаційних діях, сформульовано їх, проведено їх класифікацію та систематизацію.

Під наведеною у статті концепцією принципів формування батальйонних оперативних груп Національної гвардії України для участі у стабілізаційних діях слід розуміти загальні вимоги до побудови раціонального складу батальйонних оперативних груп з урахуванням сучасних підходів та ризики, які виникають під час їх застосування.

До першої групи принципів належать загальні принципи, які також можуть бути взяті за основу формування тимчасових організаційних одиниць для виконання інших завдань і функцій, покладених на Національну гвардію України. Ця група охоплює такі принципи: об'єктивне оцінювання; пропорційність; сталість головної мети; домінування головної мети над ресурсами; оперативне реагування; забезпечення належного обсягу ресурсів; синхронізація; постійний моніторинг; синергія; цілеспрямованість; автономність дій; створення резерву сил і засобів; системний підхід; технологічний підхід; послідовність управління; скорочення управлінських витрат.

Друга група принципів створення батальйонних оперативних груп містить специфічні принципи, характерні лише для участі у стабілізаційних діях, а саме: структурна адекватність; мінімальне застосування сили; цільова спрямованість; універсальність; адаптивність; показники просторової ефективності; диференціація; керованість; професійне регулювання; розширення повноважень.

Наведений перелік принципів дає можливість командирам (начальникам) і штабам усіх рівнів зрозуміти їхній зміст, принципи функціонування та порядок застосування під час створення батальйонних оперативних груп у Національній гвардії України. Незважаючи на те, що дотримання конкретних принципів не гарантує повного успіху, їх ігнорування може призвести до зниження ефективності дій оперативних груп батальйону у виконанні завдань за призначенням.

Реалізація цих принципів матиме вирішальне значення у процесі формування оперативних груп батальйону, оскільки дозволить отримати тимчасову військову організаційну одиницю з необхідними можливостями.

Ключові слова: *стабілізаційні дії, батальйонна тактична група Національної гвардії України, принципи.*

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