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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

20 June 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Director of Central Intelligence
FROM : William W. Wells
Deputy Director for Operations
SUBJECT : WARSAW PACT JOURNAL: Regarding the Publication
of the "Guide on the Organization and Conduct
of Combined Exercises of the Combined Armed
Forces of the Member States of the Warsaw Pact"

1. The enclosed Intelligence Information Special Report is part of a series now in preparation based on articles from a SECRET Soviet publication called Information Collection of the Headquarters and the Technical Committee of the Combined Armed Forces. This article is a brief review of the Guide on combined exercises which went into effect in the Combined Armed Forces on 1 January 1976. The Guide is considered to be a basic tool for establishing a realistic situation in which to train commanders and staffs to organize, conduct and support combat actions, work out cooperation with allied troops, and operate under various adverse conditions. The exercise critique is expected to further enrich military theory. This journal is published by Warsaw Pact Headquarters in Moscow, and it consists of articles by Warsaw Pact officers. This article appeared in Issue No. 11, which was published in 1976.

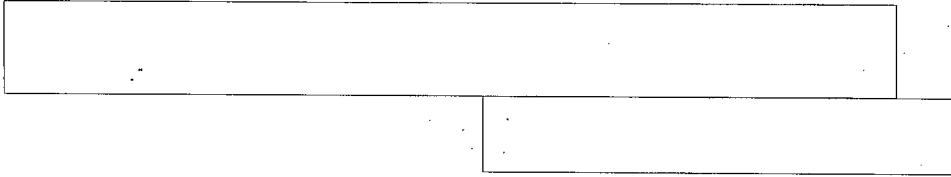
2. Because the source of this report is extremely sensitive, this document should be handled on a strict need-to-know basis within recipient agencies. For ease of reference, reports from this publication have been assigned the [redacted] Codeword [redacted].

[redacted]
William W. Wells

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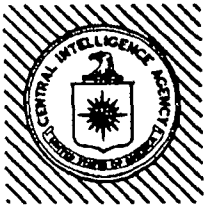
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Intelligence Information Special Report

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COUNTRY USSR/WARSAW PACT

[Redacted]

DATE OF INFO. 1976

DATE 20 June 1977

SUBJECT

WARSAW PACT JOURNAL: Regarding the Publication of the "Guide on the Organization and Conduct of Combined Exercises of the Combined Armed Forces of the Member States of the Warsaw Pact"

SOURCE Documentary

Summary:

The following report is a translation from Russian of an article from a SECRET Soviet publication called Information Collection of the Headquarters and the Technical Committee of the Combined Armed Forces. This journal is published by Warsaw Pact Headquarters in Moscow, and it consists of articles by Warsaw Pact officers. This article was written by General-Leytenant Konstantin Ivanovich Arsenyev, Chief of the Directorate of Operational and Combat Training of the Combined Armed Forces. This article is a brief review of the Guide on combined exercises which went into effect in the Combined Armed Forces on 1 January 1976. The Guide is considered to be a basic tool for establishing a realistic situation in which to train commanders and staffs to organize, conduct and support combat actions, work out cooperation with allied troops, and operate under various adverse conditions. The exercise critique is expected to further enrich military theory. This article appeared in Issue No. 11, which was published in 1976.

End of Summary

[Redacted] Comment:

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The Guide to which this article refers was disseminated [Redacted]

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Regarding the Publication of the
"Guide on the Organization and Conduct of Combined
Exercises of the Combined Armed Forces of the
Member States of the Warsaw Pact"

by
General-Leytenant K. Arsenyev
Chief of the Directorate of Operational and Combat
Training of the Combined Armed Forces

In the Combined Armed Forces there are conducted every year a considerable number of operational, tactical, and tactical-special combined exercises. Among these we class exercises with participation of the staffs, troops, aviation, naval forces, and rear services organs of two or more allied armies conducted under an overall directing body and according to a common concept and plan. Such exercises are conducted under the direction of the ministers of defense, the Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Armed Forces, the deputy ministers of defense, and other command personnel of the allied armies.

As experience has shown, combined exercises are a good form of training staffs, troops, and naval forces for conducting combat actions as part of groupings of allied troops. During the conduct of these exercises not only is the skill of generals, admirals, officers, staffs, and troops (naval forces) improved, but also mutual understanding on matters of military theory and practice is developed, and the combat collaboration, unity, and solidarity of brothers in arms wax and grow stronger.

In combined exercises are found the most effective methods of the planning and conduct of operations by groupings of allied troops and naval forces, of control, of the organization of cooperation, and of all-round support; and the questions of preparing the territories of allied countries as parts of theaters of military operations also are resolved.

In such exercises favorable conditions are brought about for educating personnel in the spirit of proletarian internationalism, socialist patriotism, combat friendship, and military comradeship.

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The national commands and the Staff of the Combined Armed Forces have accumulated considerable experience in the organization and conduct of such exercises. A result of the synthesizing of this experience and combined activity of the Staff of the Combined Armed Forces and the general (main) staffs of the allied armies is the Guide on the Organization and Conduct of Combined Exercises in the Combined Armed Forces of the Member States of the Warsaw Pact, put into effect by order of the Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Armed Forces as of 1 January 1976. The Guide was worked out on the basis of the experience of exercises and the provisions of the regulations, field manuals, guides, and firing manuals of the allied armies.

The recommendations of the Guide are directed toward achieving a unity of views in matters of preparing and conducting combined exercises and utilizing the advanced methods developed in the allied armies of training troops and naval forces in the practice of operational and combat training.

In the seven chapters of the Guide are set forth the most important regulations on the organization and conduct of combined exercises.

In the first chapter are given the principles of organizing combined exercises and the duties of the responsible persons.

In the second chapter are examined the matters of preparing and conducting such exercises.

The third chapter is devoted to the characteristics of combined, combined-arms tactical exercises conducted with field firing and bombing as well as with the participation of airborne troops and naval forces.

In the next four chapters are explained the characteristics of organizing and conducting combined exercises of air defense forces, aviation, naval forces, and tactical-special exercises of communications troops.

Appendices to the Guide supplement and explain separate articles of it more fully. They list the model contents of the basic combat documents to be worked out for the preparation and conduct of combined exercises, the distinctive markings, safety measures, signs and markers, as well as reference data for determining "losses" in personnel, equipment, and armament. These appendices will, in our opinion, facilitate the work of generals and officers of the allied armies when developing training materials. However, depending on the particular characteristics of each

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army and the conditions of conducting exercises, refinements and additions may be introduced into the content of the documents and, when necessary, different documents may be developed.

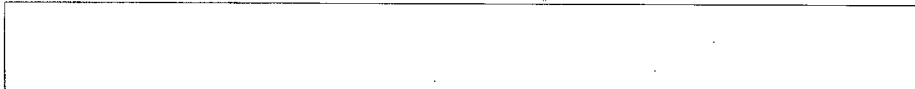
The principles of organizing combined exercises set forth in the Guide correspond to the regulations and requirements that have been worked out in the allied armies. They consist in this, that in all such exercises there has to be established a complex, fluid situation characteristic of a modern operation (battle) which requires bold decision-making and decisive, coordinated actions of the groupings of allied troops (naval forces and rear services organs) during their combined fulfilment of combat tasks. This allows training commanders and staffs to skilfully organize modern combat actions (especially on terrain), to work out matters of cooperation between allied troops (naval forces) and their all-round support, to fulfil combat tasks with the least losses, and to wage a battle under conditions of active jamming of the operation of electronic means, of heavy destruction and fires, and extensive zones of contamination of the terrain. At the same time, the main provisions of the Guide are directed toward a constant manifestation of initiative and creativity, toward finding the most perfect methods of preparing and conducting combined exercises, and toward eliminating conventionalities, oversimplification, and stereotype in training. The experience of the combined exercises conducted shows that their greatest effectiveness is achieved only if commanders and staff officers at all levels have direct contact and organize and maintain close cooperation of troops on the terrain and actually solve the problems of all-round support of combat actions through personal meetings during the combined fulfilment of combat tasks.

An important role in resolving these questions goes to the Staff of the Directing Body, which, in respect to the trainees, fulfils the functions of a superior staff. The main task of the generals and officers of the directing body must consist in purposefully teaching combined combat actions to staffs and troops. It is on this plane that all matters of organization and conduct of combined exercises are regarded in this Guide.

As we know, every exercise ends with a critique. This concluding stage of the exercise has very great importance, since this is where, as a rule, fundamental theoretical propositions are examined and the positive aspects and shortcomings in the actions of staffs and troops are analyzed. It is also important that each exercise critique is a further step in the enrichment of military theory and practice. The quality of its conduct greatly determines the proper mastery by trainees of the main theoretical propositions and problems to be worked out and the degree to which the goal

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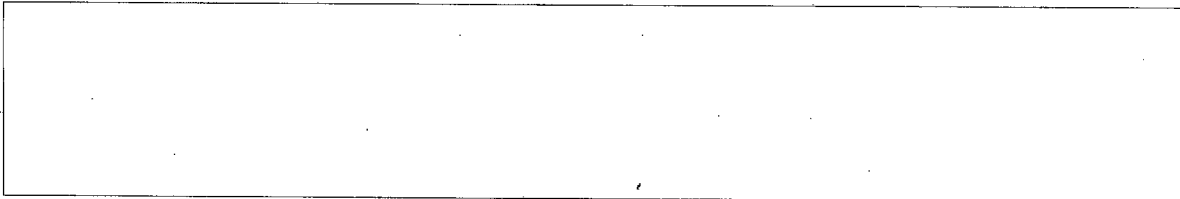
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of the exercise on the whole is attained. Therefore, besides the directing body of the exercise, military academies and other scientific institutions of the allied armies often take part in the critique of a combined exercise.

Such is the main content of the Guide on the Organization and Conduct of Combined Exercises. At the present time all the allied armies have it and use it extensively when preparing and conducting combined exercises. There is no doubt that its recommendations will promote the complete and high-quality fulfilment of the requirements of the orders and directives of the defense ministers of the allied countries and the Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Armed Forces on operational and combat training.



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