

January 16, 1980

Military Exercise Operational Directive of the Commander of the OBF

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Summary:

This document evaluates the strength of NATO forces in the Baltic Sea and provides instructions for forthcoming naval exercises to win control of the southern part of the Baltic Sea, to conduct an amphibious assault, and to win control of the eastern part of the North Sea.

Credits:

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OPERATIONAL DIRECTIVE
OF THE COMMANDER OF THE OBF

1. Conclusions from an assessment of the enemy.

2. The Maritime Front (30th and 31st Armies, air forces, 49th td, 50th mdd, 53rd vdd [Airborne Division], 13th rbr, and 13th tobr [expansion unknown, but probably some sort of tank brigade) are completing a regrouping and preparing to commit beginning on the morning of 21 January with the goal of seizing the Vejle-Esbjerg line and the island of Fyn by 27 January and seizing the Jutland Peninsula and the islands of the Baltic Approaches by 1 February.

The air defense troops of the SVD, fronts, and air defense forces of the fleet are repulsing raids by enemy aircraft and protecting the advance of the Maritime Front and the 3rd Front.

The Commanding General of Air Defense Forces in the TVD is exercising centralized command of all air defense resources. The boundary line of the areas of responsibility of the 9th iad [Fighter Division] and the IA of the 13th d PVO [Fighter Aviation of the 13th Air Defense Division] is the island of [Møn], Darsser Ort, Neurunmen [SIC, possibly Neuruppin].

3. The defeat of the opposing grouping of the OVMS [Combined Naval Forces] of the Westerners in the first fleet operation is to be accomplished piecemeal and by the successive winning of control in the southern part of the Baltic Sea, the zone before the Baltic Approaches (24 January), the Baltic Approaches [prolivnaya zona] and the eastern part of the North Sea (4 February) with the simultaneous destruction of the most important facilities to the entire depth of their tactical order of battle by carrying out [the following] naval operations:

- to win control in the southern part of the Baltic Sea;
- to land an amphibious operational assault force;
- to win control in the depth of the Baltic Approaches and the eastern part of the North Sea.

Conduct a naval operation to win control in the Baltic Sea to the line Vejle-Cape [Gnibben]-[Point] Holmen-Cape Malmö when carrying out the immediate objective of the fleet (by 27 January). Concentrate main efforts in the zone before the Baltic Approaches and the Great Belt Strait and Øresund Sound. Destroy the avm [possibly "multipurpose aircraft carrier"] with part of the forces in coordination with DA [Long Range Aviation] and the forces of the Northern Fleet, defeat the assault landing formations in the North Sea, and disrupt naval lines of communications.

Plan for the use of the forces of the OBF from 25 to 27 January in a joint airborne-amphibious assault operation in the form of a naval operation with the landing of an amphibious assault landing force on the islands of the Baltic Approaches at the decision of the Commander and an airborne-amphibious assault operation [at the decision] of the Commanding General of the Maritime Front.

Provide for the landing of tactical assault groups to seize the islands of Langeland, Lolland, Falster, and [Møn]. Determine the main sector of the landing, the island of Zealand, from the results of the operations of the troops landed in tactical assault groups on the southern islands.

Provide for two variations of the landing.

The primary variation is the main sector of the landing southwest, where the 51st msd (less an msp) and the 346th pmp are to be landed on two beach areas.

Land a diversionary assault landing force composed of the 4th msp of the 51st msd from the southeast in the area of the bay of Faxe.

The backup variation is the main sector of the landing southeast, the bay of Faxe, where the 51st msd (less an msp) and the 346th pmp are to be landed on two beach areas.

The diversionary assault landing force, consisting of the 4th msp of the 51st msd, is to be landed according to the situation.

When performing the subsequent mission in the first fleet operation during the period 28 January to 4 February (eight days) conduct a second naval operation to win control in the Kattegat and Skaggeak Straits and the eastern part of the North Sea to the line Leeuwarden-Mandal.

4. Combat mission:

When conducting the first fleet operation be ready to destroy enemy ship forces in the Øresund-Kattegat operational sector with the forces of the 2nd Fleet in coordination with the forces of the 1st and 3rd Fleets. Support the landing of part of the amphibious assault forces on the islands of the Baltic Approaches. Support the basing, deployment, regrouping, security, defense, and operations of the OBF forces, sealifts, and ensure a favorable operating environment in the zone of responsibility. Assist the troops of the Maritime Front in PDO of the coast.

Immediate mission:

Complete the defeat of enemy ship forces in the Øresund sector (west of the line Cape Simrishamn-Point Darlowo to the line Cape Arkona-Cape [Møn]) by 24 January with the forces of the 2nd Fleet and the attached 136th brka (12 rka and 4 tka [torpedo boats]) from the 1st Fleet and the support of the 112th dirk (three mrk [small missile boats] and 18 kr [possibly, "cruise missiles"]), the 946th omshap (two regimental sorties from AS Kolobrzeg) of the 1st Fleet, and in coordination with the 22nd omrap of the 1st Fleet.

On 25 January at the order of the CP of the OBF land an amphibious assault force composed of the 2nd and 3rd dp of the 50th mdd of the Maritime Front on the islands of Lolland and Falster with the forces of assault landing formation N^o 2 with the mission of seizing them by 0900 26 January.

Three regimental sorties of IBA of the Maritime Front are being allocated to suppress PDO. Protection of the landing forces from attack from the sea is to be made:

from the Grønsund direction by the forces of the 2nd Fleet, from the Øresund direction by forces of the 1st Fleet, and from the Kiel-Great Belt direction by the

forces of the 3rd Fleet which is landing an amphibious assault group simultaneously on the island of Langeland.

The submarines of the 23rd Flotilla are to destroy enemy ship forces, submarines, and transports in the Skaggerak strait.

Then (on 27 January), in accordance with the plan of the Commanding General of the Maritime Front, the forces of the 2nd Fleet with the attached assault formations of the 1st and 3rd Fleets are to land an amphibious assault force consisting of the 51st msd and the 436th pmp on the island of Zeeland in the course of an airborne-amphibious assault operation and protect the landing forces from attack from the sea from the direction of the landing of the main forces of the assault force.

Next, as the Baltic Approaches are seized, take control to its entire depth together with the forces of the 1st Fleet by 4 February and ensure the OBF forces reach the North Sea from the Øresund and Kattegat and support their basing on an island naval base.

5. In the period 20-24 January it has been planned to launch strikes on Jagel, Eggebek, Tirstrup, Husum, Karup, the PU [Mul'tiberg], [Skovhuse], and [the] US [communications center] on behalf of the operations of the forces of the allied fleets.

Protection from enemy airstrikes is to be done by the air defense resources of the Maritime Front in accordance with the air defense instruction of the OBF staff and at your request.

The forces of the 3rd Fleet with the attached 124th brka of the 1st Fleet are operating west of the line Cape Arkona-Cape [Møn].

The forces of the 1st Fleet are operating east of the line Cape Simrishamn-Point Darlowo.

Coordination is organized:

- between the forces of the allied fleets and mra [naval missile aviation] by the Commander of the OBF;

- with the allocated support forces by the Commander of the 2nd Fleet.

6. Submit reports to the OBF HQ in accordance with the table of periodic reports.

OKP OBF - Kaliningrad

ZKP OBF - Liepaya

KPZ [SIC, should be KPU]- the Cruiser Oktyabr'skaya Revolyutsiya

VPU - Swinoujscie

Second deputy - the Commander of the 3rd Fleet

Third deputy - the Commander of the 2nd Fleet

Report the decision for the assigned missions by 2400 20 January.

Readiness of the forces to perform the mission is 0000 21 January.

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