

ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC OF BiH<sup>1</sup>  
COMMAND OF THE 8th OG<sup>2</sup> SREBRENICA  
No.130-28-169/94  
Srebrenica, 7 November '94

Defence of the republic  
Military secret  
Strictly confidential

Report for the month of October  
Tuzla, 1994, on the state of combat morale,  
is hereby delivered .-

to the Command of 2nd Corps  
- Sector for morale -

1. Description of the state of moral of our forces in comparison to the report when B/M<sup>3</sup> of the fighters of the 8th OG units was at a critical point and there was even a possibility of some units falling apart due to the attempts of departure in the direction of Tuzla, B/M is constantly improving. A turning point in the improvement of B/M occurred after the Order of the Command of the 2nd K<sup>4</sup> of ARBiH to scout the enemy positions and carry out preparations for possible B/D<sup>5</sup> in the direction of K. Polje<sup>6</sup>-Cerska-Kamenica. All units showed a full measure of willingness and readiness to carry out all such assignments from superiors. Combat morale has not declined because of the death and wounding of a number of soldiers when scouting the enemy territories.

Significant stabilising of the state [happened] after the after the cycles of attempted departures for Tuzla ended, [and] a series of significant activities were carried out. The prolonged second round of training for command staff held for units from the level of platoon commander to the commandant of Brigade was carried out by the Command of the 8th OG in the duration of 24 hours per each unit.

Engineering upgrading was carried out as on other lines so on the shelters for citizens built in case of a possible shelling by the aggressor.

In the sense of logistic supply, there has been a small improvement after a certain amount of armament and ammunition was delivered from Tuzla. On average, during the past month, UNHCR convoys came once a week, thus the socially alarming situation was somewhat remedied. 2000 pairs of rubber boots were taken out of the humanitarian aid contingent and handed out to members of ARBiH on the first line. Those are the factors that contributed to improving of fighters' B/M. The improving of B/M was especially influenced by the informing on the combat successes of the fighters of ARBiH in battlefields throughout BiH, and especially those in the zone of responsibility of the 5th, the 1st, and the 7th Corps. Members of the 8th OG have shown great willingness to participate in the offensive B/D for the liberation of territorial area separating the free territory of Srebrenica from the free territory of Tuzla district. All detailed scouting of the enemy were carried out for that purpose. Selection of manpower to carry out B/D was conducted, as well as physical and psychological preparations. Bonding has occurred between citizens and fighters, and a large number of citizens are volunteering to participate in B/D even though they are not members of ARBiH.

B/M of citizens was improved by the activity of law enforcement bodies for combating crime concerning the distribution of humanitarian aid. During the past month, bodies of SJB<sup>7</sup>, OJT<sup>8</sup>, and the Court carried out an investigation against all those who worked at DCS<sup>9</sup> of UNHCR goods. Fighters and people greatly supported that activity.

In addition to the regular reports on B/M, the Command of the 8th OG requested the units to conduct a special evaluation of B/M of the unit during the carrying out of both offensive and defensive B/Ds.

a) The 280th iblbr<sup>10</sup>:

Since preparations have been carried out for the carrying out of offensive and defensive B/Ds, the decisiveness of the fighters has been increasing more and more. According to the reports of the commanders of companies, dated 1 January 1994, members of all companies and platoons, with the exception of one company, are ready to fight the aggressor. Despite all the shortcomings of the logistic nature, the decisiveness and will of our unit and all citizens are at a high level for the final liberation of our territories and the entire RBiH. As a particular difficulty they state the

<sup>1</sup> Translator's note: Bosnia and Herzegovina

<sup>2</sup> t/n: Operations Group

<sup>3</sup> t/n: combat morale

<sup>4</sup> t/n: Corps

<sup>5</sup> t/n: combat operations

<sup>6</sup> t/n: this refers to Konjević Polje

<sup>7</sup> t/n: Public Security Station

<sup>8</sup> t/n: District Public Prosecutor's Office

<sup>9</sup> t/n: distribution centre

<sup>10</sup> t/n: Eastern Bosnia Light Brigade

possibility of stepping onto undiscovered minefields because during the past month 3 fighters of the 284th iblbr were wounded, and 9 of them died in their Z/O<sup>11</sup>.

b) The 281st iblbr:

Fighters have vast combat experience, high will and sprits for the liberating of BiH, and especially for unblocking Srebrenica that has been occupied for 3 years. Morale is at a good level, and it has especially improved after the great successes of ARBiH in other areas, and the will has emerged for liberating PZT<sup>12</sup> in this area as well.

c) The 282nd iblbr:

Through gatherings and daily meetings it can be concluded that the state of B/M is essentially better than it was during the preceding period. Soldiers want to prove and show their credits to all those that belittle and disrespect us.

Soldiers understand that this war of liberation they have a great responsibility both military and moral, and in accordance with that, they are ready to take all responsibility.

d) The 283rd iblbr:

Fighters showed great interest and spirits, thus 500 fighters volunteered to join action. However, those who did not volunteer stated their decisiveness to protect and defend our brigade's L/O<sup>13</sup> and the entire free territory.

e) The 284th iblbr:

On 3 November '94 we carried out an assessment of fighters' B/M for accepting the combats against the aggressor in case of our offensive operations in the direction of K. Polje, Cerska, and Kamenica. There was a unique situation where out of the total number of present [persons]/about 300/, 100% of them stated that they were ready to carry out any assignment. It should be noted that we have enough volunteers that are volunteering to join this assignment, and they are currently not part of existing formations.

f) SBB<sup>14</sup>:

All units and fighters of this battalion have high combat morale and all fighters of the battalion volunteer for carrying out combat assignments.

From one part of the source comes an assertion that the fighters and units would gladly accept to carry the most complex assignments. We conclude that most attention should be devoted to the behaviour of Serbia and the possibility of another shelling from Serbia and to the support in the sense of manpower, as well as how the UN forces would react to all of that, given the fact that this territory is demilitarised. This assertion does not have influence on B/M of the fighters in the sense of them going into battle, but it should be analysed before B/D happens because it could be crucial for the complete success, or it could cause difficulties in reaching the triumph.

Due to the fact that there are no infirmaries in the place where B/D is carried out. The second factor is the inexistence of road communications between locations of hospitals in Srebrenica, as well as the lack of fuel for vehicles that could move along forest roads. However, even that problem does not have a negative influence on the decisiveness to start carrying out B/Z<sup>15</sup>.

The greatest problem will be the infiltration of a large number of soldiers from D/Z<sup>16</sup> to the destination without UNPROFOR noticing them, and also avoiding minefields on the way from Srebrenica to the destination.

2. The enemy is still secured with firearms along the entire demarcation line. According to reports of units, it is stated that the aggressor continues to provoke and kill citizens within D/Z as soon as there is a chance for that. It was also noticed that there are frequent changes of enemy guards in the zone of responsibility of the 282nd iblbr and the 283rd, and in its report, the 280th iblbr states that the enemy brought trained dogs to the demarcation line of Pajići-Zvijezda-Čauš. On a number of occasions, an aggressor helicopter was noticed from the direction of Milići towards Bratunac. Redeployment of aggressor soldiers and additional engineer fortification of lines were noticed. In its report, the 281st iblbr states that the aggressor is fixing old and building new bunkers and trenches. Near our line in Bukovica, a new PAM<sup>17</sup> and T55 tank were set, near Stari Iovac<sup>18</sup> in Nikolići sector.

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<sup>11</sup> t/n: zone of responsibility

<sup>12</sup> t/n: temporarily occupied territory

<sup>13</sup> t/n: line of defence

<sup>14</sup> t/n: Independent Mountain Battalion

<sup>15</sup> t/n: combat assignment

<sup>16</sup> t/n: demilitarised zone

<sup>17</sup> t/n: anti-aircraft machine gun

<sup>18</sup> t/n: name of a restaurant, literal translation is The Old Hunter

In the report of the 282nd iblbr, they accentuate that the aggressor has set one tank in the site of Ljeskovik-Jasenova. In the report of the 284th iblbr, they accentuate that the aggressor forces are centring around the free territory of their Z/O.

Our intelligence bodies are still noticing unobstructed transit on the bridge over the Drina, Bratunac and Ljubovija, and according to that the aforementioned embargo of the so-called Yugoslavia against the rebelled Serbs in BiH was being violated.

### 3. Conclusion

The substantial conclusion is that units within the 8th OG can carry out the presently set assignment very successfully. Activities within the units, and especially the successes of the fighters of ARBiH positively influenced the improvement of the combat morale of all fighters. [illegible] tasks for preparing the potential offensive and defensive B/Ds and cooperation for the part of other units outside the 8th OG shall be carried out tasks have significantly improved the combat morale.<sup>19</sup>

The combat moral in the 8th OG can be graded as extremely good /4/. There are deviations as in the 283rd iblbr as good, and in SBB as high /5/.

Reasons for the 283th iblbr to be given the grade good and that at the moment it is weaker than in other units, should be looked for in consultation of the negative acting of the so-far Commandant of the Brigade, Major Huso Salihović, who passes all of his incapacities to carry out the set assignments onto the Command Staff of the 8th OG, by which he is lowering the B/G<sup>20</sup> of the unit.

Combat morale of the aggressor is weakening, but it can be graded as satisfactory /2/. This positive grade can be derived from the fact that no combat operations took place in this territory in a longer time period, thus the aggressor can maintain the positive B/M. [Aggressor's] bringing of new technology around Srebrenica is probably great caution in order to avoid Bihać, Kupres, or something similar happening again.

In the area of the free territory, a series of activities were carried out by the authorities that had a positive psychological effect on the people, and especially on the fighters. Thus, law enforcement bodies managed to finally cut off smuggling from the humanitarian aid DC. Persons that were most responsible for that were replaced, and criminal proceedings were started, and investigation is ongoing.

g) Planned measures and activities for improving the morale of our forces. Continue conducting training and informing the fighters. With the aim of training for leadership and political education, insist that the Command of the 2nd Corps open one NC<sup>21</sup> department within the 8th OG, given that the 8th OG is completely encircled and cannot use the existing NC in Tuzla within the 2nd Corps. Continue activities on combating crime. Work on improving logistic supplies of the units.

h) Overview of the incentive, disciplinary, and criminal measures.

a) Incentive measures:

a) Command of the 8th OG and Command Post:

No incentive measures were awarded.

b) The 280th iblbr:

No.	Type of honours	On the level of unit	Brought by	Posthumous	Leader	Soldier
4.	Monetary reward	brigadier	President of Tuzla -Podrinje Canton	1	-	1
10.	T o t a l : 1					

- The 281st iblbr:

No.	Type of honours	On the level	Brought by	Posthumous	Leader	Soldier
2.	Promoted produced in rank of ARBiH	brigadier	Commandant of the Brigade	-	-	90
10.	T o t a l : 90					

- The 282nd iblbr:

No incentive measures were awarded.

<sup>19</sup> t/n: sentence does make sense in the original text, thus it was translated literally

<sup>20</sup> t/n: combat readiness

<sup>21</sup> t/n: teaching centre

- The 283rd iblbr:  
No incentive measures were awarded.
- The 284th iblbr:

No.	Type of measure	On the level of unit	Awarded by	Posthumous	Leader	Soldier
4.	Monetary reward	brigade	President of Tuzla -Podrinje Canton	-	1	-
10.	T o t a l : 1					

- SBB

No.	Type of measure	On the level of unit	Awarded by	Posthumous	Leader	Soldier
4.	Monetary reward	Brigade	President of Tuzla -Podrinje Canton	1	1	-
10.	T o t a l : 1					

b)Disciplinary penalties imposed:

- Command of the 8th OG and Command Post.  
No disciplinary measures were imposed.
- The 280th iblbr:

No.	Type of disciplinary measures	MEASURES IMPOSED BY				
		KV <sup>22</sup>	KCC <sup>23</sup>	K.BAT. <sup>24</sup>	KB <sup>25</sup>	higher superior
5.	Military detention	-	-	-	1	-
7.	T o t a l : 1					

- The 281st iblbr:  
Does not state in the report that disciplinary measures were imposed.
- The 282nd iblbr:  
Does not state in the report that disciplinary measures were imposed.
- The 283rd iblbr:

No.	Type of disciplinary measures	MEASURES IMPOSED BY				
		KV	KCC	K.BAT.	KB	higher superior
3.	Reprimand	-	-	-	26	-
4.	Severe reprimand	-	-	-	7	-
7.	T o t a l : 3					

- The 284th iblbr:

No.	Type of disciplinary measures	MEASURES IMPOSED BY				
		KV	KCC	K.BAT.	KB	higher superior
2.	Warning	-	-	-	18	-
3.	Reprimand	-	-	-	7	-
4.	Severe reprimand	-	-	-	6	-
7.	T o t a l :					

- SBB iblbr:

<sup>22</sup> t/n: Commander of Platoon

<sup>23</sup> t/n: Commander of Company

<sup>24</sup> t/n: Commandant of Battalion

<sup>25</sup> t/n: Commandant of Brigade

No. Type of disciplinary measures	MEASURES IMPOSED BY				
	KV	KCC	K.BAT.	KB	higher superior
3. Reprimand	-	-	-	1	-
5. Prison up to 60 days	-	-	-	2	-
10. Total :	3				

Overview of the perpetrator with criminal liability:

- Command of OG and Command Post:

There are no perpetrators of criminal liability

- The 280th iblbr:

In the report, it is stated that there are no perpetrators with criminal liability.

- The 281st iblbr:

No perpetrators with criminal liability are stated in the report.

- The 282nd iblbr:

No perpetrators with criminal liability are stated in the report.

- The 283rd iblbr:

No. Criminal liability	No.of offences	No.of k/p <sup>26</sup> attempts
3. Arbitrarily left the unit	38	-
10. Total :	38	

- The 284th iblbr:

There are no perpetrators with criminal liability.

- SBB:

No perpetrators with criminal liability are stated in the report.

Due to the absence of PK<sup>27</sup> for security from the OG at the time of compiling this report /he is away on a mission in Žepa/, I was unable to check the correctness of the data delivered by the units.

6.Other activities

a)Planned political education is not conducted due to the fact that the teachers cannot come to Srebrenica due to the physical separation of PZT.

b)To this day we have not gotten a single brochure or any materials from the Department of Morale. We ask you to keep all the copies you have for us in a special depot, so you could deliver it to us when physical link-up of territories occurs.

c)Since we do not get material, we do not distribute it either.

d)There are no presentations of the textual materials to the fighters and leaders.

e)Fighters and leaders are mainly familiar with the causes of the war and its character, and the aims of our fight. Leaders and fighters are pleased with the current daily-political events and latest successes of ARBiH that influence their B/M in a positive manner. Fighters have a positive outlook on the political parties that were established with the legal government, and are generally pleased with the work of SDA<sup>28</sup>. They are not satisfied when they notice fraction conflicts and opportunistic behaviour coming from a part of its members, as it is the case in SDA branches in Srebrenica and Bratunac. Such fraction turmoil does have a negative influence on B/M of fighters and the entire population. The Bosniaks in this area gave enormous support to SDA in the election contest and the party still has that support. Fighters insist on an even stronger cooperation between the civil and military bodies in finding all solutions.

f)In order to promote the political education, it is necessary for the Command of the 2nd K of ARBiH to establish one NC department within the 8th OG, which would work on the implementation of that programme.

PK for Morale  
Captain  
Nijaz Mašić

<sup>26</sup> t/n: criminal offence

<sup>27</sup> t/n: Assistant Commander

<sup>28</sup> t/n: Party of Democratic Action