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Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D. C. 20505

24 December 1987

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT : USSR GENERAL STAFF ACADEMY LESSON: Reconnaissance in Operations and Combat Actions of Formations of the Navy

1. The enclosed Intelligence Information Special Report is part of a series now in preparation, classified ~~TOP SECRET~~, prepared in 1985 for use in the Voroshilov General Staff Academy.

2. [redacted] this document should be handled on a strict need-to-know basis within recipient agencies.

25X1, E.O.13526

[redacted signature] Acting Deputy Director for Operations

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Intelligence Information Special Report

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COUNTRY USSR

[Redacted]

DATE OF INFO. 1985

DATE 24 December 1987

SUBJECT

USSR GENERAL STAFF ACADEMY LESSON: Reconnaissance in Operations
and Combat Actions of Formations of the Navy

SOURCE Documentary

Summary:

The following intelligence report is a translation from Russian of one of a series a lectures presented at the General Staff Academy. It discusses reconnaissance in a strictly naval context. Under the rubric "Purpose and Tasks," it stresses the importance of a "constantly operating reconnaissance system" and briefly describes 5 categories of reconnaissance available to the Navy. The second part of the paper gives a sketch of the planning of reconnaissance and lists the type of information to be gathered in representative naval operations.

End of Summary

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RECONNAISSANCE IN OPERATIONS AND COMBAT ACTIONS
OF FORMATIONS OF THE NAVY

Reconnaissance in operations and combat actions of formations of the Navy [involves] two questions.

The first question is the purpose and tasks of reconnaissance in operations and combat actions of formations [ob"yedineniya] of the Navy and the forces and means called on to accomplish them. The second question is reconnaissance during the preparation and course of the operation.

I. PURPOSE AND TASKS OF RECONNAISSANCE IN OPERATIONS AND COMBAT ACTIONS OF FORMATIONS OF THE NAVY

As you probably recall, the Navy consists of two components, naval strategic nuclear forces and general-purpose naval forces.

Naval strategic nuclear forces are used (they operate) in war in the form of an operation of naval strategic nuclear forces. This operation is conducted in the context of an operation of the strategic nuclear forces of the country and it is an aggregate of coordinated interrelated operations of flotillas of strategic missile submarine cruisers and naval operations to destroy enemy land targets conducted by fleets on their own axes.

The forms of employment of general-purpose naval forces are fleet combined-arms and naval operations as well as regular combat actions conducted in the context of strategic operations in ocean theaters of military operations, in continental theaters of military operations, and in the context of combined operations in theaters of military operations. A decisive effect on the course and outcome of armed combat at sea attaches to the first fleet combined-arms and naval operations which begin immediately at the beginning of a war. The most important form of support of the preparation and conduct of these operations is reconnaissance.

Reconnaissance in a fleet combined-arms and naval operation [obshcheflotskaya i morskaya operatsiya] is the system of specially organized actions of fleet forces and measures taken by staffs to acquire the necessary information about the enemy in the area of the operation, to [select] and process this information, and to get the reconnaissance data to the interested command levels in order to support the preparation and conduct of the operation.

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Fleet operations and naval operations are marked by decisiveness and importance of the objective, by a large number of targets, by large spatial scope, and by fleet performance of tasks in remote areas of ocean and sea theaters of military operations, all in limited periods of time. All this has a substantial effect on the organization of reconnaissance in the operation. The USSR Minister of Defense in Order [00200?] calls attention to the [illegible] [factors] of a surprise enemy attack and calls for a dramatic increase in the effectiveness of day-to-day reconnaissance, exclusion of the possibility for an enemy to create [2 words illegible], and assurance of the successful preparation and conduct of [2 words illegible] of the first operations and initial strike.

The constant danger of aggression on the part of strategic nuclear forces, the growth of the military technical capabilities of accomplishing the missions of the armed forces, the special nature of a nuclear missile war, the extraordinarily [illegible] growing importance of the factor of surprise in the launching of a war, the need to ensure timely preparation of the first operations, and other objective conditions determine the need for continual reconnaissance in any circumstances both in wartime and in peacetime.

In order to ensure successful preparation and conduct of the first operations and delivery of the first strike, which will play a decisive role, and to have a decisive effect on the course and outcome of armed conflict it is necessary to have constantly at sea -- and not only at sea -- considerable reconnaissance forces which would be engaged in the performance of tasks in literally all areas of future combat actions. And now in peacetime every ocean and sea theater has a constantly operating system of reconnaissance engaged in surveillance of the main basing points of the fleet forces and all the main groupings of naval forces of the enemy, engaged in surveillance of literally the entire ocean -- a constantly operating reconnaissance system intended for preparation and support of the first strike and the first operations.

This constantly operating reconnaissance system includes three main components. The first component is reconnaissance actions of combat service forces [sily boyevoy sluzhby]. The combat service forces are a sizeable force, on the order of one quarter of our Navy, constantly located in areas of future combat actions, located where deployed enemy groupings are located. They are always in contact with the enemy. Combat service forces are constantly in the Barents Sea, in areas [2 words illegible] [of our fleet]. The Seventh Operational Squadron constantly [2 words illegible] in the North Atlantic; submarines [illegible] surface ships in the western Atlantic. The Eighth Operational Squadron is always [word illegible] [in the Pacific]. The Fifth Operational Squadron is in the Mediterranean.

The second component of the constantly operating reconnaissance system in ocean and sea theaters is the regular activity of the reconnaissance forces.

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Tu-16s, Tu-22Rs, and Tu-95s make daily flights in the Barents Sea, the Sea of Norway, and the North Atlantic. Operating from [illegible] Field, a Tu-95 makes flights in the western Atlantic, from Luanda Field in the southern Atlantic, from [Aden] Field in the Indian Ocean, from Danang Field in the western Pacific, and from [illegible] Field on Kamchatka in the northwestern part of the Pacific and the Bering Sea.

A certain part of the brigade of 15 ships which is in each [illegible] is always at sea, usually about 4 or 5 ships. Reconnaissance ships are constantly in the area of [illegible], in the Mediterranean, the Sea of Japan, and along the western coast of the USA.

The merchant ship agent network. Merchant ship agent groups are on literally every passenger vessel -- diesels, steamers, whatever. The merchant ship agent network is everywhere, from the straits of Denmark [line illegible], all over the ocean. Our ships sail the entire ocean, they call at all ports, and they encounter groups of ships at sea.

Part of the submarines are constantly on the prowl specially to do reconnaissance tasks.

In space now in peacetime, there are 3-4 satellites which have electronic gear and radio and radioelectronic reconnaissance equipment; and they look at literally the entire ocean with unblinking eyes repeatedly, many times a day. We shall return to technical reconnaissance later.

Radio reconnaissance units, or more precisely, radioelectronic reconnaissance -- radio reconnaissance units of radioelectronic reconnaissance centers. These encompass literally the entire ocean, since the range of radio intercept and radio direction finding in the very long-, long-, and short-wave is [3 words illegible].

Finally, the third component of the constantly operating reconnaissance system is [illegible] reconnaissance measures to accomplish separate important tasks. Two or three or four times a year in the northeastern Atlantic and the Sea of Norway in missile submarine patrol areas, antisubmarine search operations are conducted. This is what they [are called], but in fact they are doing reconnaissance tasks since the principal tasks are to detect missile submarines, establish [illegible] of movement [for a certain time], and thus confirm the boundaries of the patrol area and the number of [2 words illegible]. These operations are conducted with considerable forces for a short period of time. Or, let us say, the enemy is conducting some large exercise or maneuvers with deployment [of the strike fleet] in the Atlantic. Reconnaissance forces will be deployed beforehand, and at the time ships are still about to depart naval bases on the east coast of the USA, reconnaissance is already [there]. Reconnaissance observes the formation of the carrier strike groups, their passage, and

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deployment [in the Sea of Norway], identifies the composition and combat readiness, and performs many tasks -- not merely for curiosity's sake, because exercises repeat and each exercise may have little new information to be obtained without the involvement of such an enormous number of forces to detect, discover, observe, and carry out surveillance of all the groupings in the exercise. But under cover of an exercise may be [undertaken] operational deployment of forces for the start of actions. This is exactly where reconnaissance must operate very well so as to prevent a surprise strike. Therefore one of the principal [tasks?] of reconnaissance is to issue vectoring and target designation data to combat service forces, i.e., to do reconnaissance and perform tasks in the interests of detecting the enemy and at the same time support strike forces.

Similar measures are conducted by reconnaissance in other areas concerning different matters. They are [conducted] [illegible] the concentration of considerable reconnaissance efforts, of considerable reconnaissance forces in certain areas for a certain period of time to perform one or more tasks. This is what the constantly operating system of reconnaissance of [every] ocean and sea theater of military operations is.

The constantly operating system of reconnaissance in wartime will support the regular activity of fleet forces, carrying out constant surveillance of all the groupings of enemy naval forces and detecting changes in the composition and combat readiness of these groupings.

Reconnaissance in the operations and combat actions of the Navy is organized on the basis of this constantly operating reconnaissance system. What is the meaning of "on the basis of"? First of all, use of its forces already deployed by the beginning of operations and combat actions in the regions where these are conducted. Second, it is the use of reconnaissance information obtained by the constantly operating reconnaissance system to prepare and conduct operations.

Allocated to do reconnaissance tasks are the forces and means of those naval formations which are conducting operations, as well as the reconnaissance forces and means attached and supporting the formations [2 words illegible].

Reconnaissance is conducted through integrated use of the forces and means of the various forms of reconnaissance -- air reconnaissance, sea reconnaissance, land-based reconnaissance, special reconnaissance, and naval space reconnaissance -- under the direction and according to the plan of the staff of the formation that is conducting the operation.

Air reconnaissance in an ocean or sea theater of military operations. Forces of air reconnaissance in an operation. Air reconnaissance is done by units and subunits of reconnaissance aviation, units of ASW aviation, and non-T/O reconnaissance detachments of naval missile-carrying aviation. Each

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regiment has one non-T/O reconnaissance detachment which trains especially to perform reconnaissance tasks. Reconnaissance is also conducted by the crews -- literally all crews -- of other types of naval aviation.

Air reconnaissance is conducted with radio, radiotechnical, and radar means, with visual/optical means, photographic means, hydroacoustic means (dunking hydroacoustic sets and radioacoustic buoys), magnetometric means, and infrared means. It performs tasks of detecting, identifying, and tracking enemy ship groupings and submarines, identifies how these groupings are made up and determines whether they are in cruising or operational formation. In addition to the maneuver and operational forces of the enemy, air reconnaissance also does reconnaissance of fixed objects. That is, it finds out how the theater of military operations is prepared and reveals changes in the preparation of the theater of military operations.

An aircraft such as the Tu-95 is capable of detecting with radiotechnical reconnaissance means a group of ships or individual enemy ships at distances of 800-1000 km, with the use of the USPEKH reconnaissance system; with radars, it can detect a group of ships at a distance of up to 400 km, and with separate observation of each ship in [illegible] formation at distances up to 270-320 km. It is capable of identifying the battle formation and disposition of the grouping of ships and issuing data to vector the strike forces of the fleet to combat groupings of ships and individual ships of the enemy, and issuing target designation data for the use of cruise missiles by submarines, surface ships, and naval missile-carrying aviation at distances of up to 420 km.

Reconnaissance aircraft can do photography. A Tu-16RM is able to do overhead [planovoye] photography, on a scale of one cm per 100 m, of an area of 4250 square km, oblique photography of a strip of terrain 270 km long, or oblique photography of ships at a distance of 20-25 km. Aerial cameras are big, the film is large, and the lenses are huge, with long focal lengths. If one photographed a person from a distance of a kilometer, the photograph would be good and everything would be seen. So such a camera makes it possible to photograph ships so that one can distinguish the antenna equipment and so forth, including the visual features of each ship, from 25-30 km.

Land-based reconnaissance [nazemnaya razvedka] is conducted by coastal radio and radiotechnical reconnaissance units, forces and means of large units and units of naval infantry and coastal missile artillery troops, as well as by coastal radiotechnical surveillance units. Land-based reconnaissance is conducted with the use of radio and radiotechnical reconnaissance means, radioelectronic means, and visual/optical and photographic means. The main tasks of land-based reconnaissance are discovery of immediate preparations of the naval forces of a likely enemy to launch a war, detection of strike groupings and other operational groupings of the enemy in base and at sea, and determination of their makeup, location, and nature of actions. It also

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performs the task of discovering the system of control of enemy forces, including combat control of nuclear missile means in ocean and sea theaters of military operations. It carries out tasks to ascertain the preparation of the theater of military operations.

Coastal units of radio and radiotechnical reconnaissance do search, intercept, direction-finding, and technical analysis of the emissions of means of radio communications, radar, radio navigation, and radio telemetry.

The range of intercept and direction-finding of radio communications emissions in the very long-, long- and short-wave bands is 9000 km or more; in the medium-wave band it is 800-1000 km. Direction-finding accuracy is one to one and a half degrees. The effectiveness of recognizing emissions and tying them to specific targets varies from somewhere around 0.3 to 0.7. One naval radio detachment, that is, one radio reconnaissance unit of the fleet is able to deploy on the order of 40 posts and maintain surveillance (constant surveillance) of at least 160 radio communications frequencies of the enemy. Each fleet has four land-based reconnaissance units and four radio and radiotechnical reconnaissance units.

Naval space reconnaissance. Fleets have no naval space reconnaissance. This is available only to the Main Staff of the Navy, and its use is the prerogative of the Intelligence Directorate of the Main Staff of the Navy. But in the interests of operations conducted by fleets as well as formations of fleets, naval space reconnaissance can be used with great effectiveness on request from fleet staffs by the Main Staff of the Navy.

Naval space reconnaissance is conducted by the Naval Space Reconnaissance and Target Designation (MKRTs), or LEGENDA, system. This system includes reconnaissance satellites and ground centers. In peacetime there are 3-4, usually 3, satellites in orbit; but in wartime there would be 6. The time to bring the system to full combat readiness from peacetime status is on the order of 96 hours.

Naval Space Reconnaissance is able to accomplish tasks of detecting enemy warships and merchant ships at sea and on the ocean and doing regular surveillance of them, tasks of ascertaining the makeup and the cruising and battle formations of ship groupings, and tasks of providing target designation to strike forces of the fleet for employment of weapons.

The system of Naval Space Reconnaissance and Target Designation, using radar and radiotechnical reconnaissance equipment, is able to provide coverage of virtually all the water area of the oceans of the world, that is, all the water area where warships sail, with a frequency of two to six times a day in peacetime, and 4 to 12 times a day in wartime. The [frequency] depends on the latitude. The closer to the pole, the farther north, where the globe narrows,

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the more often they appear -- as often as 12 times a day compared to more like four times a day at the equator. They detect the characteristics of a vessel or group of ships with 0.7 to 0.9 probability, determine their location to within 10-15 km, and issue target designation to missile submarines and missile ships. Besides this, in order to support the preparation and conduct of operations on [request] of fleet staffs [to] the Main Staff of the Navy, space photo reconnaissance will be done using the means of GROM -- photo reconnaissance of naval bases, areas of presumed location of coastal hydroacoustic stations of the [illegible], airfields, ports, and other land-based targets.

Special reconnaissance. Special reconnaissance is done by agent organs and units, or more precisely, by special-purpose large units and units. Using agent sources, fleet reconnaissance can observe the basing and construction [shipbuilding?] areas of a fleet, identify the activity of the most important enemy naval bases and ports, basing points, and [illegible] of missile submarines, detect the coming and going of ships and fleets, and learn of the conduct of enemy steps to initiate military actions.

Reconnaissance personnel, that is, Spetsnaz personnel, along with means of radio and radiotechnical reconnaissance, special and conventional arms, and means of radio communications, are dropped on the enemy coast by submarine or surface ship, or flown in or parachute-dropped from aircraft. They are able to do surveillance in the basing areas of fleet forces and in the areas of [coastal] lines of communication, to clarify the activity of naval bases and ports, do reconnaissance of enemy antilanding defenses and the locations of [illegible] on the shore; and they are also able to carry out missions to destroy or knock out shore posts of [coastal missile and artillery troops], means of nuclear weapons delivery, depots, and other important land-based targets. The means of communications which reconnaissance groups have will provide transmission of [reports] a distance on the order of 600 km.

Sea reconnaissance. Sea reconnaissance [morskaya razvedka] is done by reconnaissance ships, combat surface ships, submarines, auxiliaries, and also by systems of distant hydroacoustic surveillance. It is done with means of radio reconnaissance, radiotechnical reconnaissance, and with radar, visual/optical, photographic, hydroacoustic, and television means.

Sea reconnaissance performs the mission of detection and [observation] of enemy warships, merchant ships, and groups of ships at sea and on the ocean and identification of signs of increasing readiness and of immediate preparations for the use of nuclear weapons. It provides surveillance of the main enemy groupings, issues vectoring and target designation data to fleet strike forces, and ascertains the preparation of the area of impending operations.

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A surface ship or submarine is able to detect short-range short-wave communications emissions and use them to perform direction-finding of ships at distances of 1000 to 2000 kilometers, out to 2000 at night, out to 1000 in the daytime. In the case of long-range communications, the distance is unlimited; but for short-range communications it is on the order of 1000-2000 km. Using the medium-wave communications emissions of surface ships and aircraft, it is able to detect and determine their location at distances up to 350 km; using the emissions of the medium-wave beacons of carriers if aircraft are aloft, that is [next line mostly illegible except for words "operate" and "homing beacons"] carriers at a distance of 700-900 km. They can detect by radar emissions enemy aircraft at distances up to 200-350 km with radiotechnical reconnaissance means, and by the emissions of the same means, that is, radar emissions, they can detect surface ships at distances somewhere up to 120 km. They are capable with their own radars of detecting enemy surface ships at line-of-sight distances up to 55 km. The line-of-sight distance depends on the height of the radar antenna; on ships this is on the order of 20-35 m above the water level. They detect with hydroacoustic means submarines at distances of 30-40 km, that is, surface ships, and on the order of up to 150 km in submarines.

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... done by the chief of staff of the fleet, and the direct organizer and supervisor of all reconnaissance measures is the Chief of Intelligence of the Fleet, whose [official] title is "Chief of the Intelligence Directorate of Fleet Staff and Deputy Chief of Staff for Intelligence."*

The Chief of Intelligence of the Fleet, first of all, has two deputies: one operations deputy and one deputy for agent and special intelligence. He has two departments: the intelligence organization and planning department, and the agent and special intelligence department. In addition, the chief of intelligence [has] an intelligence control post for continuous round-the-clock processing of all incoming intelligence information and reports for the command as well as for continuous round-the-clock supervision the activity of reconnaissance forces and means, a fleet radioelectronic reconnaissance center which includes 3-4 units of coastal radio reconnaissance detachments, a special-purpose special complex -- also a radio reconnaissance unit which does search, intercept, and analysis of supershort emissions of a second or less in duration. The radioelectronic reconnaissance center also includes a brigade of up to 15.

* Headquarters Comment: The reader is reminded that the distinction between "intelligence" and "reconnaissance" is determined by what the translator finds appropriate in each instance; they are the same word in Russian.

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reconnaissance ships, a coastal radiotechnical reconnaissance detachment, and a shore base. Moreover, the chief of intelligence [is assigned] the fleet intelligence information center. There are 42 officers in each fleet, information organs [2 lines illegible] ... which work with the use of materials intercepted by radio reconnaissance units. Agent intelligence organs, an intelligence center or post, sea reconnaissance groups, merchant ship agent network, [word illegible], and special-purpose large units and units, or a separate SPETSNAZ naval brigade or [illegible].

In an operational respect, i.e., in the performance of tasks, the chief of intelligence of the fleet is over the chiefs of intelligence of the formations and large units of the fleet. Fleet air forces and flotillas have intelligence departments and other organs. Squadrons, which are operational/tactical formations, have only a chief of intelligence. Large units have no chief of intelligence; one of the staff officers, as a rule, performs the functions of chief of intelligence. The chief of intelligence of fleet air forces is assigned an information center, 1-2 reconnaissance air regiments, a separate reconnaissance [illegible], a detachment of radio reconnaissance aircraft, [the strength of a transport aviation regiment?].

II. RECONNAISSANCE IN THE PERIOD OF PREPARATION AND DURING THE COURSE OF OPERATIONS AND COMBAT ACTIONS OF FORMATIONS OF THE NAVY

Reconnaissance in the interests of the first operations is planned and organized beforehand in peacetime; that in the interests of follow-up operations is planned during the first operations. Initial data for the planning and organization of reconnaissance are the missions assigned to the formation for the operation, the decision of the formation commander on carrying out the mission, the available data on [illegible], the condition and capability of reconnaissance forces and means, and finally the reconnaissance instructions from the higher staff. It is on the basis of these data that reconnaissance is planned and organized. The commander-in-chief, after ascertaining the missions assigned him in the directive and determining the situation, gives reconnaissance tasks to the fleet staff. He indicates the reconnaissance goal, the main tasks, and the directions on which to focus the main reconnaissance efforts. He shows what reconnaissance forces and means to call on in addition besides the intelligence complex of the fleet.

The assignment of reconnaissance tasks by the formation commander does not have the classical appearance of here-is-the-reconnaissance-goal-and-here-are-the-tasks. The formation commander merely says what to pay principal attention to, what to focus the main efforts on, and what information he must get by what time. The chief of staff, after receiving instructions, elaborates the details; on the basis off the overall reconnaissance mission, he elaborates, expands, and indicates particular reconnaissance tasks to the chief of intelligence. He

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discusses with him the details of the use and actions of reconnaissance forces and what reconnaissance forces to send to perform specific particular reconnaissance tasks. All these initial data and instructions on reconnaissance are the basis of reconnaissance planning in the intelligence directorate.

Planning is based on coming up with ways to carry out the tasks, determining the sequence and times to carry them out, and, most important, achieving the best distribution of reconnaissance forces and means among tasks, areas, and targets. Getting the best distribution of reconnaissance forces and means is based on assessing their capabilities, evaluating the enemy's capabilities to oppose reconnaissance, and calculating the effectiveness of performance of each particular task in many variations -- with one distribution of forces, then with another. The criterion is the effectiveness of performance of the main reconnaissance tasks.

For the first operations, reconnaissance is planned in peacetime, and so all these variations have been calculated and the best ones selected. But we do not know what the specific situation will be when war starts; and, depending on the specific situation, when a threat period arrives, all plans will be refined, including reconnaissance plans, and all these calculations will be updated and the best variations selected. The plan of reconnaissance for an operation is, as a rule, drawn up on a map with attachment of a written explanation. It is signed by the chief of staff and the chief of intelligence and confirmed by the fleet commander. Upon an immediate threat of an enemy attack, steps are taken to beef up reconnaissance of enemy naval forces and to increase the survivability of our own reconnaissance system. Reconnaissance plans are updated in the first operations, and so are the tasks of large units, units, and organs of intelligence, as well as the matters of organization, cooperation, control, and communications.

The main efforts of intelligence in a threat period are focused on ascertaining the changes in the makeup, the nature and general trend of activity, and the combat readiness status of the enemy, as well as on supporting the operational deployment of fleet forces, issuing data to vector strike groupings to the main enemy groupings, and issuing target designation data for strikes on the enemy.

When reconnaissance is organized during the immediate preparation of the first operations, as the threat of war grows, maneuver forces of reconnaissance are predeployed in distant areas of ocean theaters. This is done taking into account the possibility of enemy conduct of camouflage measures [meropriyatiya po maskirovke] and measures to oppose our reconnaissance forces as well as the way the enemy may employ weapons before the start of military actions. For instance, it is known from agent sources that the Command of the US Sixth Fleet in the Mediterranean contemplates in a threat period, among various measures,

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flying carrier-based aircraft at supersonic speed over the ships of our Fifth Operational Squadron, which performs constant surveillance of carrier groups and is in readiness to deliver a strike. The Americans, as a result of studies, have come to the conclusion that such a flight at low altitude of aircraft over the ships at supersonic speed will wreck all the antenna assemblies on the ships and even break the portholes. They also contemplate the intentional collision of American ships with our ships. Say a destroyer [2-3 words illegible] cuts into [illegible] of our missile cruiser, followed by all sorts of accusations of poor maneuvering, etc.; the deed is done and a ship is out of commission.

Reconnaissance ships in this period do not cease performing reconnaissance tasks, but go to areas which are under the control and protection of our forces, or in special cases they can shelter in the ports of friendly countries, but deprived of the capability of doing reconnaissance.

To ascertain the situation in an ocean or sea theater of military operations [3-4 words illegible] in a threat period immediately prior to the start of military actions, i.e., one to two days before, as a rule, the fleet will carry out a simultaneous mass flight of its main forces of reconnaissance aviation in order to clarify and update the situation at sea. To do reconnaissance tasks in this period before the start of a war, it will be most effective to use, along with reconnaissance forces and combat service forces, all the aircraft in the air, and all the ships and vessels at sea, including civilian [registration] vessels.

In a threat period in the context of the overall system of theater reconnaissance, in the context of the overall system of fleet reconnaissance in the first operation, there will be subsystems of reconnaissance on behalf of fleet operations, including a subsystem of reconnaissance on behalf of operations of a flotilla of mixed forces, on behalf of operations or combat actions of a flotilla of submarines, on behalf of the naval operation to eliminate enemy submarines, on behalf of the operation to eliminate enemy ASW forces, on behalf of the operation to eliminate enemy carrier groupings, on behalf of the landing operation if one is planned for the theater in the initial period of the war, on behalf of the operation to cut ocean and sea lanes of communication, on behalf of operations conducted with naval strategic nuclear forces, i.e., [illegible] operations to destroy [naval] targets of reconnaissance.

With the start of the operation, reconnaissance is done with maximum intensity of forces, above all to ensure effective delivery of a first strike with nuclear weapons or with conventional weapons alone. This is the chief task prior to and after the start of war -- to ensure successful conduct of the first strike.

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During a fleet combined-arms operation, reconnaissance successively supports the actions of strike forces to perform the immediate, then the follow-up tasks during the operation; and its main efforts in this period are focused on ensuring the defeat of enemy nuclear missile submarines, carrier groupings, and other ship and aviation groupings which present the greatest threat to rear area objects and groupings of the armed forces. Reconnaissance is done at the same time on behalf of those operations which may perhaps not be conducted at the start of the war -- say, on behalf of operations to disrupt enemy ocean shipping and other operations.

The main efforts of reconnaissance of the first operations of the flotilla of mixed forces are focused on ensuring reliable detection of groupings of enemy ASW forces, surface combatants and submarines in adjacent or internal seas. One of the main tasks of reconnaissance in the operation of the flotilla of mixed forces is support of the deployment and combat stability of strategic missile submarines and their bases in the combat mission area.

During operations with only conventional means of destruction, the main task of reconnaissance is timely notification of friendly forces of a nuclear attack in preparation. In this connection, reconnaissance forces do continuous surveillance of all nuclear weapons delivery vehicles and identify signs of their immediate preparation for the use of nuclear weapons.

Some of the naval operations will be conducted at the start of a war, and others during the war. Operations which will be conducted at the start of war include such operations as the naval operation to destroy enemy missile submarines, the naval operation to destroy enemy carrier groupings, and the naval operation to destroy enemy ASW groupings. These operations are planned and prepared in peacetime, and operational reconnaissance may be required at any time to provide reconnaissance data support for the planning of these operations, the preparation of forces, and the successful performance of tasks by forces at the start of war.

These tasks of reconnaissance support of preparation of the first naval operations are performed by the constantly operating system of reconnaissance of the Navy. It is very unwieldy, this system of reconnaissance; and, in fact, all reconnaissance forces take part in peacetime, and reconnaissance is done throughout the depth of the theater of military operations. This is only for the Navy [3 words illegible]. Ground forces reconnaissance in peacetime is essentially non-existent. On behalf of actions of groupings of the armed forces, the General Staff organizes reconnaissance, but as a branch of the armed forces, there is only a small intelligence directorate, a dozen people, in the Ground Forces. This scale of reconnaissance in peacetime is typical only of the Navy. This is due, of course, to the fact that the distances to reconnaissance targets are enormous. The threat period [one or two illegible words] to deploy reconnaissance forces; they would take half a month to get to these areas and

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begin the tasks. Second, there are the enormous weapons employment ranges of enemy long-range missile submarines [and] carrier aviation. This is why peacetime [calls for] a very extensive, strong constantly operating reconnaissance system. Also peacetime is when all the organization of reconnaissance is worked out and the permanent groupings of reconnaissance forces to support the first naval operations are deployed.

Since naval operations differ in goal, tasks, and conditions of conduct, it is natural that reconnaissance in different naval operations has its own distinct features. The essential difference in the organization of reconnaissance in operations is in the direction of the main efforts, in the tasks and targets of reconnaissance, and in the makeup of forces involved. For instance, a naval operation to eliminate enemy missile submarines would target reconnaissance efforts on support of the deployment of groupings of mixed ASW forces and support of their participation in search ASW operations that will be conducted before the war starts and of their conduct of combat actions after the start of war.

The main targets of reconnaissance in this operation are enemy missile submarines in combat patrol areas, on routes from the basing points to patrol areas, and in basing points, as well as the missile transports and missile submarine tenders. Missile transports and tenders can provide resupplying of missile submarines, therefore they are also prime reconnaissance targets.

Reconnaissance also targets groupings of enemy naval forces which can counter our ASW forces and present a threat to them in performance of their main tasks in the operation, as well as systems of support of missile submarine activity, which include systems of control, communications, and radio navigation.

Missile submarine reconnaissance draws on all forces and means capable of detecting submarines, including submarines, surface ASW ships, and ASW aviation, which will, as a rule, be operating in the complement of a mixed-force ASW grouping, as well as coastal OSNAZ units.

Agent reconnaissance of missile submarine basing points reveals the presence of these submarines in the basing points, their status, and their coming and going in and out of base.

Special reconnaissance forces find and take out land-based targets of systems of navigational and hydrographic preparation, of antisubmarine surveillance in theaters of military operations, missile submarine control posts, and communications centers.

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Of the naval operation to destroy enemy carrier groupings, it should be said that primary attention in this operation is on reconnaissance of carriers of the first operational echelon, which are already in the combat mission areas. These are, first of all, the carriers of the US Sixth Operational Fleet and Seventh Operational Fleet, and also the carrier groups of subsequent echelons before they reach the lines of launching carrier aviation.

The principal targets of reconnaissance are the enemy carrier groupings, the carriers themselves, and the special weapons transports, which store about 40 percent of all the nuclear warheads designated for the carriers, as well as the enemy groupings which are able to offer opposition to our forces in the conduct of combat actions to destroy carriers.

The important reconnaissance targets are coastal communications centers, radio navigation systems, and command posts. Reconnaissance of carrier groupings draws on the forces of reconnaissance aviation, naval space reconnaissance, submarines, and coastal radio reconnaissance units. Agent reconnaissance has a part in this operation only in peacetime and during preparation for the operation. During the operation it will play essentially no part because of the brevity of combat actions.

In the naval operation to destroy enemy ASW forces, reconnaissance efforts are focused on support of the actions of forces primarily to destroy the maneuverable enemy ASW forces, which constitute the greatest threat to our submarines. Other reconnaissance targets are the means of support of the activity of the maneuverable ASW forces, including the submarine [detection] system, basing points of fleet forces, communications centers, command posts, etc.

Reconnaissance in this operation draws on multipurpose submarines, reconnaissance and ASW aviation, coastal OSMAZ units, and special reconnaissance groups. Special reconnaissance groups take out the key structures of SOSUS and targets that provide control of ASW forces in theaters of military operations.

In the naval operation to disrupt or cut enemy ocean and sea shipping, the principal targets are convoys, lone transports with troops and cargo, tankers, loading and unloading points with their adjacent power, transport, and industrial facilities, and also carrier and other enemy ship and aviation groupings that support ocean shipping and offshore petroleum and gas complexes and elements of them.

Reconnaissance efforts in this operation focus on support of the actions of fleet forces to destroy, understandably, convoys and transports with troops and cargo at sea and in bases, and also to destroy or take offshore petroleum and gas complexes or their main elements, such as shore terminals, offshore derricks, etc.

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In this operation reconnaissance is organized throughout the depth of theaters of military operations. It draws on reconnaissance aviation of the fleet, long-range aviation, submarines, naval space reconnaissance, coastal radio reconnaissance units, as well as agent sources and special-purpose reconnaissance groups.

A very large role is played by agent sources operating in ports and bases, who can identify the places, time, concentration of cargoes and troops, the nature of cargoes, and the concentration points of transports and tankers, the convoy organization areas, convoy routes, destination of cargoes, etc. The forces of special reconnaissance in this operation find and take out individual transports and ships in ports and at convoy organization points, do reconnaissance of the nature of cargoes carried, and destroy depots of materiel and munitions.

The preparation and conduct of reconnaissance are also important in other naval operations and combat actions -- operations to destroy important enemy land-based targets, to hit enemy naval forces in enclosed seas and seas adjacent to our coast, to defend the basing areas for our [sea] lanes of communication. Thus, reconnaissance in operations and combat actions of formations of the Navy is a most important form of operational support. As the operation itself is a definite concentration of fleet forces to achieve assigned goals in limited time in some specific area, against specific enemy targets, so is reconnaissance a concentration of efforts on enemy targets, areas, and times of activity in order to support the operation.

The tasks of reconnaissance support for preparation of the first operations and combat actions are performed by the constantly operating reconnaissance system of the Navy. Reconnaissance in operations and combat actions is organized on the basis of this constantly operating system of reconnaissance and carried out through integrated-use of the forces and means of air, sea, naval space, special, and land-based reconnaissance.

The growing importance of the factor of surprise in the initiation of war, the considerable increase in the scope of armed combat at sea, and other factors require prior planning, working out of the organization of reconnaissance, maintenance in constant readiness of a certain [substantial] grouping of reconnaissance forces of the fleet to support the first fleet combined-arms naval operations. Reconnaissance of all the principal targets is conducted constantly both in peacetime and in wartime.

Reconnaissance in operations and combat actions of formations of the Navy is marked by large spatial scope, considerable distance of the areas of actions of reconnaissance forces from their bases, the large number of reconnaissance targets which must have simultaneous surveillance at sea -- i.e., on and under

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the water, in the air, and on land. It is marked by by strong enemy electronic, fire, and other opposition to reconnaissance, by participation not only of the forces and means of the intelligence complex of the fleet, but also the mixed forces of the fleet, by the tightness of organization of cooperation, control of forces, and support of reconnaissance forces at such great distances and on such large water areas.

Naval operations differ in objectives, missions, and conditions of conduct. And [illegible] of conduct of reconnaissance in different naval operations has its distinct features, including tasks, reconnaissance targets, direction of main efforts, and makeup of forces and means drawn upon.

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