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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

19 September 1980

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Director of Central Intelligence
FROM : John N. McMahon
Deputy Director for Operations
SUBJECT : USSR GENERAL STAFF ACADEMY LESSONS :
Decision-making and Critique of the Front
Commander's Decision for the Offensive Operation

1. The enclosed Intelligence Information Special Report is part of a series now in preparation based on a collection of 29 lessons, classified TOP SECRET, prepared in 1977 for use in the Soviet General Staff Academy. The lessons are broken down into two parts: the first 19 lessons deal with the staff preparation of a front offensive operation with conventional and nuclear weapons; the remaining 10 lessons deal with the conduct of an offensive employing conventional weapons at first with a transition to the use of nuclear weapons. This report is a translation of the lesson involving a front commander's decision-making, planning, and instructions for a front offensive operation, with both conventional and nuclear weapons, across the north German plain to the Netherlands and Belgium.

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.

John N. McMahon

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Intelligence Information Special Report

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COUNTRY USSR

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SUBJECT

GENERAL STAFF ACADEMY LESSON No. 1e: Decision-making and Critique
of the Front Commander's Decision for the Offensive Operation

SOURCE Documentary

Summary:

The following report is a translation from Russian of a lesson, classified TOP SECRET, prepared for use at the General Staff Academy of the Armed Forces of the USSR. This lesson is for the instruction of students acting as commanders of a front in the decision-making, planning, and staff instructions for a front offensive operation, with nuclear or conventional weapons, across the northern area of West Germany to the Netherlands and Belgium. The main points covered are: assessment of the NATO enemy, tasks of the major force components of the front, air operations, air defense, airborne and amphibious landing operations, cooperation with naval and adjacent forces, organization of control, initial nuclear missile and air strike, defense against weapons of mass destruction, political work, reconnaissance, engineer support, camouflage, radioelectronic warfare, and rear services support.

End of Summary

Comment:

Although not specifically identified, the colors representing NATO countries in this series probably equate as follows:

Brown	-	West Germany
Blue	-	Great Britain
Green	-	United States
Lilac	-	Belgium
Violet	-	Netherlands

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Lesson No. 1e



I. Subject: Decision-making and critique of the front commander's decision for the offensive operation.

II. Estimated time for working out Lesson No. 1e.

Designation of the Lesson	Time allotted (in hours)		Total
	Group training period	Individual study	
Lesson 1e. The <u>front</u> commander's decision on the <u>offensive</u> operation. Instructions of the <u>front</u> commander on <u>planning</u> the operation, organizing troop cooperation and control, maintaining constant readiness to deliver the initial nuclear strike and repel a possible enemy invasion, supporting the troops' combat actions, and political work.	4	16	20

III. Training objectives:

- teach the students to make a sound decision for the front offensive operation and to draw it up on a map with an explanatory memorandum;
- teach the students the contents of the front commander's instructions on planning the operation, organizing troop cooperation and control, maintaining constant readiness to deliver the initial nuclear

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strike and repel a possible enemy invasion, supporting the troop combat actions, and political work;

-- train the students on /making/ the report of the front commander's decision for the offensive operation and on issuing the instructions on planning and all-round support of the operation.

IV. Method of conducting the lesson -- a group exercise with war game elements.

V. Methodological recommendations for preparing the students for the lessons.

In preparing for the lessons, the director of the study group will be guided by the textbook Front Offensive Operations, the training methods aids for Lesson No. 1e, the map of the decision, and the explanatory memorandum for it.

At the start of the students' individual study, the lesson director will conduct a briefing in which he points out:

-- what it is necessary to focus attention on when drawing up a decision on a map and the procedure in developing an explanatory memorandum for it;

-- the prescribed times when the students are to submit to him, for checking, the decision and its explanatory memorandum.

When the students are at work in the process of drawing up the decision and developing its explanatory memorandum, care must be taken to see that all of the prescribed matters are indicated in them.

To be depicted on the map of the decision:

-- the grouping of the enemy's ground forces, aviation, and navy; his nuclear means, air defense system, electronic means, guidance centers, command posts, engineer obstacles, prepared defense lines, and the anticipated nature of his actions;

-- our own troop grouping in the departure position for the offensive (the first- and second-echelon divisions of the armies, the second echelons and reserves of the front, rocket troops, air defense troops, engineer and chemical troops, air army large units and units, rear units and facilities of the front, the command posts of the armies and front); the immediate and follow-up tasks of the front; the tasks of the first-echelon armies (immediate, follow-up, and for the first day of the offensive); the tasks

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of the rocket troops and aviation in the initial nuclear strike (the targets of nuclear strikes, the number and yield of the nuclear warheads, the type of burst and who delivers the strike); the axis of the main and other attacks; the landing areas for the airborne and amphibious landing forces; the demarcation lines between the first-echelon armies, the axes for relocation and the lines for deploying the front antitank reserves and mobile obstacle detachments; the lines and time of commitment to battle of the second echelon, and the axis of relocation of the front control posts.

In addition, the map will show the basic indices of the operation, the immediate and follow-up tasks of the front (the width of the offensive zone, the depth of the immediate and follow-up tasks of the armies and the front, the time period for their fulfillment and the average rates of advance of the offensive), and it will have the pertinent heading captions, the signatures of the front commander and chief of staff, and the approval of the senior commander. If required, a legend with conventional symbols will be provided on the map of the decision.

The following will be set forth in the explanatory memorandum for the decision:

- a short assessment of the enemy and his possible intentions;
- the purpose and concept of the front offensive operation;
- the combat composition of the front, the allocation of reinforcement means and the flight resources by tasks and armies;
- the availability, arrival times, and distribution of nuclear warheads;
- the quantitative and qualitative balance of forces and means in the front zone and their density;
- the schedule for fulfillment of the main tasks of the front depending on conditions and the possible start of war;
- the times for the deployment and readiness of front troops for the offensive;
- the provision for the safety of front troops during the delivery of nuclear strikes;
- the availability, inflow, and distribution of materiel;
- readiness times of front control posts and communications system.

During the /students'/ individual study, the study group director will study the operational documents developed by the students (the decision on the map with explanatory memorandum), discuss shortcomings with each of them separately and strive to eliminate them, and will prepare remarks for the critique of the lesson.

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VI. The procedure for conduct of Lesson No. 1e -- 4 hours (180 minutes).

1. Theoretical questions -- 10 minutes.
2. Critique of the front commander's decision for the offensive operation -- 80 minutes.

Students in the capacity of front commander will report the decision on the offensive operation:

- conclusions from the assessment of the enemy;
- objectives of the operation and tasks of the front;
- tasks of the Strategic Rocket Forces and the adjacent forces;
- concept of the operation (definition of the main enemy grouping and methods of destroying it, axis of the main attack and other attacks, targets to be hit by nuclear weapons and procedure for their employment, forms of operational maneuvering, and operational disposition of front troops);
- tasks of front troops (of the first-echelon armies, the second echelon, the rocket troops, the artillery, the air army, the assault landing forces, the air defense troops, the front's reserves -- combined-arms reserve, antitank reserve, the mobile obstacle detachments, and others);
- procedure for cooperation;
- organization of control.

Decision of the front commander for the offensive operation.

I.

1. In the Coastal Front area, the following are preparing to deliver a strike: the Northern Army Group, the 2nd Allied Tactical Air Force, and naval forces in the Baltic and North seas. Having at a high level of combat readiness the missile/nuclear means, aviation, and fleets, they can build up attack groupings of ground forces within a short time on the HAMBURG-SZCZECIN axis made up of three army corps (Brown 4th and 6th army corps and Lilac 1st Army Corps), on the HANNOVER-BERLIN axis made up of four to five army corps (Brown 1st and 5th army corps, Blue 1st Army Corps, Lilac 2nd Army Corps, and Violet 2nd Army Corps), and they can deliver a surprise attack against troops and installations of the front employing

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approximately 370 nuclear munitions in an initial massed strike.

The enemy is capable of intensifying his efforts by shifting the Blue 2nd Army Corps and 3rd Infantry Division and by the additional deployment of two to three Brown divisions.

2. The Coastal Front, made up of the 4th, 6th, 7th, and 9th armies, 10th Tank Army (as of D2), 2nd Army Corps, 1st Air Army, 6th Motorized Rifle Division, 20th Tank Division, 30th Airborne Division, 2nd and 3rd front missile brigades; 6th, 8th, and 11th artillery divisions of the Reserve of the Supreme High Command; 4th and 5th antitank artillery brigades, 15th Surface-to-Air Missile Brigade, 10th Antiaircraft Artillery Division, 3rd brkhv /sic -- brkhz: Chemical Defense Brigade/, and complement of front units and large units, has the task of repelling a possible thrust by the enemy and of preventing his invasion into our territory. It is to prepare and, upon special order of the Supreme High Command, conduct an offensive operation on the JUTLAND and HANNOVER-BRUSSELS axes and, in cooperation with the Combined Baltic Fleet and the Western Front, destroy the main forces of the Northern Army Group and the aircraft of the 2nd Allied Tactical Air Force, seize the northern part of the Brown territory and the Lilac and Violet territories, and reach the North Sea coast and organize its defense.

The immediate task of the front is to conduct attacks on the BAD OLDESLOE, RENDSBURG and CELLE, OSNABRUCK axes, destroy the main forces of the Northern Army Group and the 2nd Allied Tactical Air Force, make an assault crossing from the march of the KIEL Canal and WESER River, and on the fifth to sixth day of the operation seize the FLENSBURG, WESTERLAND, AURICH, ASCHENDORF, LINGEN, and MUNSTER line.

Together with the forces of the Combined Baltic Fleet, an amphibious landing operation will be carried out to seize FEHMARN Island on the first day of the operation and the KIEL Naval Base on the second day.

The follow-up task of the front will be to develop the offensive on the ENSCHEDE, BRUSSELS axis, make an assault crossing from the march of the IJSSEL and RHINE rivers, destroy the advancing enemy reserves, and on the tenth to twelfth day of the operation seize the BRUGGE, RONS /?RANCE?/, CHARLEROI, DINANT line, reach the North Sea coast, and organize its defense.

Allocated for the front operation are 680 nuclear munitions (360 missiles, 320 aerial bombs) and 21 army sorties of the 1st Air Army,

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including three sorties according to the plan of the Supreme High Command, for participation in the air operation.

In the initial nuclear strike in the area of the offensive for the coastal front, the following will be destroyed:

-- by the Strategic Rocket Forces -- enemy troops and installations west of the NORDEN, DORTMUND line;
-- by the Combined Baltic Fleet -- aircraft at four airfields: No. 06 at EGGEBEK, No. 08 at JAGEL, No. 09 at RENDSBURG, and No. 10 at FRIEDRICHSORT, three mine depots (FLENSBURG, ECKERNFORDE, and KIEL), and the command post of the allied naval forces (HOLTENAU).

In case combat actions are initiated employing only conventional means of destruction, according to the plan of the Supreme High Command an air operation will be carried out to destroy the missile/nuclear and aviation groupings of the enemy.

On the right -- the Combined Baltic Fleet will destroy the enemy aviation grouping in the North Sea and ship groupings in the North and Baltic seas; together with the forces of the Coastal Front, carry out an amphibious landing operation to seize FEHMARN Island and the KIEL Naval Base; assist the front in seizing the southwest coast of the Baltic Sea and southeast coast of the North Sea and in organizing their defense; disrupt the sea shipments of the enemy in the North Sea; and provide sealift in support of the Coastal Front.

On the left -- the Western Front will prepare an offensive operation on the KASSEL-KOBLENZ axis with the objective of destroying, in cooperation with the Coastal Front, the Northern Army Group's troop grouping and the main forces of the Central Army Group. Its right-flank 3rd Army will deliver a thrust on the GOTTINGEN, MENDEN, BASTOGNE axis.

The boundary line with it is: EISENHUTTENSTADT, LUCKENWALDE, OSTERWIECK, LUNEN, (excluding) DUISBERG, and DINANT.

3. I have decided: by /using/ splitting attacks the 7th and 9th armies on the CELLE-BRUSSELS axis and the 4th Army on the JUTLAND axis will defeat the HANNOVER and HAMBURG groupings of the enemy, by the follow-up commitment to battle of the front's second echelon (6th Army and 2nd Army Corps) they will develop a rapid offensive into the depth; and with part of the forces in the direction of the flanks they will destroy the operational stability of the Northern Army Group, separate its attack troop groupings

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and, in cooperation with the Western Front and the Combined Baltic Fleet, complete their destruction.

Destroy by means of massed nuclear and air strikes and artillery fire the enemy's missile/nuclear means and aviation and his ground forces attack groupings in the areas of: AHRENSBURG, BREMEN, UELZEN; CELLE, NIENBURG, HAMELN, and SALZGITTER.

The initial nuclear strike will employ 376 nuclear munitions to destroy: the 2nd Pershing Missile Wing, the 150th and 650th Lance missile battalions, the 24th and 50th Lance missile regiments, the 450th Sergeant Missile Battalion; 17 nuclear weapons depots; delivery aircraft at 14 airfields; five control and warning centers (posts); the command posts of the Northern Army Group, the 2nd Allied Tactical Air Force, and of six army corps; 30 to 40 batteries of Nike and Hawk surface-to-air missiles; and to inflict 75 to 80 percent destruction on 13 divisions (Brown 6th, 11th, 13th, 14th, 15th, and 18th motorized infantry divisions, and 3rd, 7th, and 16th tank divisions; Green 4th Mechanized Division, Blue 1st, 2nd, and 4th armored divisions) and 30 to 50 percent destruction on four divisions (Brown 1st and 21st motorized infantry divisions and Lilac 1st and 4th motorized infantry divisions).

At the start of combat actions employing conventional means of destruction only, the 1st Air Army, by three massed strikes and in cooperation with Long-Range Aviation and naval aviation, will destroy the launchers of the on-alert batteries of the 2nd Pershing Missile Wing and of the Lance and Sergeant missile battalions (regiments), rout the main forces of the 2nd Allied Tactical Air Force, and gain air supremacy.

By means of bomber, fighter-bomber, and army aviation strikes and artillery fire maximum losses will be inflicted on the Brown 1st, 4th, and 6th army corps and the Blue 1st Army Corps.

A possible enemy invasion will be repelled by the covering forces and head-on attacks of the main forces of the front first-echelon armies.

The main strike of the front will be delivered on the CELLE, OSNABRUCK axis by the forces of four armies (6th, 7th, and 9th armies, and 10th Tank Army), we will destroy the Brown 1st Army Corps and, in cooperation with the 3rd Army of the Western Front, we will encircle and destroy the Blue 1st Army Corps and the Violet 1st Army Corps in the area of BRAUNSCHWEIG, BODENWERDER, and NORDHEIM.

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The second strike will be on the BAD OLDESLOE, FLENSBURG axis by the forces of the 4th Army and the 2nd Army Corps and, in cooperation with the Combined Baltic Fleet, we will destroy the main forces of the Brown 6th Army Corps in the area of BAD SEGEBERG, HAMBURG, and GEESTHACHT.

The 6th Army, to be committed to battle on the morning of the third or fourth day of the operation from the FALLINGBOSTEL, BISSENDORF or SYKE, UCHTE line on the NIENBURG, RHEINE axis, and the 2nd Army Corps, /to be committed/ on the second or third day of the operation from the line (excluding) BAD OLDESLOE, GRUNWALD on the BARGTEHEIDE, UTERSEN axis, will augment the efforts of the first operational echelon troops of the front and complete the destruction of the HANNOVER and HAMBURG enemy groupings.

With the commitment to battle of the 6th Army, the main efforts of the 7th Army will be directed, in cooperation with the 2nd Army Corps, to the destruction of the large units of the Brown 4th Army Corps and part of the forces of the Brown 6th Army Corps, and /in cooperation/ with the main forces of the front, developing a rapid offensive, it will destroy the operational reserves of the Northern Army Group and, on the fifth to sixth day of the operation, fulfill the immediate task of seizing the FLENSBURG, WESTERLAND, AURICH, ASCHENDORF, LINGEN, and MUNSTER line.

During the first and second day of the operation, the forces of the 16th Motorized Rifle Division and the 61st and 62nd naval infantry regiments will carry out an amphibious landing operation and will seize FEHMARN Island and the KIEL Naval Base.

Subsequently, with the commitment to battle of the 10th Tank Army on the fifth to sixth day of the operation, from the FURSTENAU, (excluding) OSNABRUCK or OLDENZAAL, BORGHORST line on the GRONAU, EINDHOVEN axis, the main forces of the front (7th and 6th armies and 10th Tank Army) will develop a rapid offensive, complete the destruction of the main forces of the Northern Army Group east of the IJSSEL and RHINE rivers, and the 9th Army, in cooperation with the troops of the Western Front, will encircle and destroy the RUHR enemy grouping, make an assault crossing of these rivers from the march and, on the 10th to 12th day of combat actions, attain the final objective of the front operation -- seize the BRUGGE, RANCE, CHARLEROI, DINANT line and reach the coast of the North Sea and organize its defense.

To capture the crossings and assist the troops of the 10th Tank Army in the assault crossing of the RHINE River from the march, on the fifth to sixth day of the operation an airborne landing operation will be carried

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out by landing the 30th Airborne Division in the area of EMMERICH, GROESBEEK, KEVELAER, and XANTEN.

The front's troops will be operationally disposed in two echelons. The first echelon will consist of the 4th, 7th, and 9th armies; the second echelon will consist of the 6th Army, 10th Tank Army, and 2nd Army Corps; the combined-arms reserve will consist of the 13th Motorized Rifle Division and the 20th Tank Division.

4. Tasks of the front's troops:

a) The 4th Army (3rd, 7th, 8th, and 14th motorized rifle divisions, 2nd Tank Division, 4th Army Missile Brigade, 4th Army Artillery Brigade, 4th Surface-to-Air Missile Brigade) with the 6th Artillery Division of the Reserve of the Supreme High Command /RVGK/, the 10th Antiaircraft Artillery Division (from D3), the 2nd and 3rd battalions of the 21st Engineer Position Preparation Regiment (from D4), will repel a possible enemy attack with its covering troops in their fixed positions and with head-on attacks by the army's main forces, and it will develop the offensive on the BAD OLDESLOE, RENDSBURG axis.

The immediate task, in cooperation with the Combined Baltic Fleet, will be to destroy the main forces of the Brown 6th Army Corps, make an assault crossing of the KIEL Canal from the march, and by the close of the third to fourth day of the operation jointly with an amphibious landing of the 16th Motorized Rifle Division and the 61st and 62nd naval infantry regiments, seize the KIEL, RENDSBURG, and ITZEHOE line. By the close of the first day of the operation, reach the AHRENSBOK, AHRENSBURG, LAUENBURG line.

On the second to third day of the operation, it will support the 2nd Army Corps' commitment to battle from the (excluding) BAD OLDESLOE, GRUNWALD line on the BARGTEHEIDE, UTERSEN axis, having transferred to it the 8th Motorized Rifle Division.

To seize FEHMARN Island jointly with the Combined Baltic Fleet, on the first day of the operation an amphibious force will be landed -- the 62nd Naval Infantry Regiment and the 48th Motorized Rifle Regiment; and to capture the KIEL Naval Base, on the morning of the second day of the operation an amphibious landing operation will be carried out by the forces of the 16th Motorized Rifle Division (minus the 48th Motorized Rifle Regiment) and the 61st Naval Infantry Regiment.

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The follow-up task will be to develop the offensive on the SCHLESWIG, SUDERLUGUM axis, complete the destruction of the Brown 6th Army Corps, and by the close of the fifth day of the operation seize the FLENSBURG, WESTERLAND line, reach the North Sea coast, and organize its defense.

In the initial nuclear strike of the front, 37 nuclear munitions will be used to destroy: the 650th Lance Missile Battalion, delivery aircraft at two airfields: No. 07 (HUSUM) and No. 12 (MARNE), the nuclear warhead depot at ITZEHOE, the 6th Army Corps command post, three control and warning centers, (WROHM, EIGEN, AHRENSBURG), the 31st, 33rd, and 39th Hawk missile battalions; and to inflict damage on: the Brown 6th Motorized Infantry Division with three missiles, the Brown 14th Motorized Infantry Division with one missile, the Brown 18th Motorized Infantry Division with nine missiles, and the Brown 21st Motorized Infantry Division with three missiles.

The army will be allocated 49 missiles for the operation: 15 R-300 missiles (2x20 kt, 4x40 kt, 9x100 kt); 34 R-65 missiles (3x3 kt, 7x10 kt, 24x20 kt); 10 regimental sorties of fighter-bomber aviation, 20 regimental sorties of army aviation, and 5 nuclear bombs (3x5 kt, 2x10 kt).

The command post of the army will be in the forest 3 km south of WARIN. The relocation axis will be BAD OLDESLOE, RENDBURG, SCHLESWIG.

The left boundary line: MIROW, PERLEBERG, LUTKENWISCH, further along the ELBE River, BRUNSBUTTELKOOG. With the commitment of the 2nd Army Corps to battle, the boundary will be BAD OLDESLOE, (excluding) ELMISHORN.

b) The 7th Army (1st, 4th, and 11th motorized rifle divisions, 5th and 9th tank divisions, 7th Army Missile Brigade, 7th Army Artillery Brigade, 7th Surface-to-Air Missile Brigade) with the 8th Artillery Division of the RVGK, the 12th Engineer Obstacle Clearing Battalion (up to D3), the 22nd Pontoon Bridge Regiment, the 27th Assault Crossing Battalion (up to D4), and the 1st Battalion of the 21st Engineer Position Preparation Regiment (from D4) will repel a possible enemy attack with its covering troops in their fixed positions and with a head-on attack by the army's main forces it will develop the offensive on the CELLE, NIENBURG axis, with part of its forces to SOLTAU.

The immediate task, in cooperation with the 9th Army, will be to destroy the Brown 1st Army Corps, inflict defeat on the Brown 4th Army Corps, make an assault crossing of the WESER River from the march and, on the third to fourth day of the operation seize the WINSEN, ROTENBURG, UCHTE

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line. Be in readiness to support the 6th Army's commitment to battle from the FALLINGBOSTEL, WIETZENDORF line or the SYKE, UCHTE line on the NIENBURG, RHEINE axis; the main forces of the army are to be concentrated to destroy the enemy's HAMBURG grouping in cooperation with the 2nd Army Corps. By the close of the first day of the operation it will reach the UELZEN, ESCHEDA, BROCKEL line.

The follow-up task will be to develop the offensive on the VERDEN, PAPENBURG axis and with part of the forces to BREMERHAVEN in cooperation with the 6th Army destroy the enemy's operational reserves and on the fifth to sixth day of the operation seize the AURICH, ASCHENDORF, (excluding) HAREN line.

Upon commitment to battle of the 6th Army, the 5th Tank Division and the 8th Artillery Division of the RVGK (minus the 2nd Gun Artillery Brigade) will be transferred to it.

In the front's initial nuclear strike it will employ 41 nuclear munitions to destroy: two nuclear warhead depots at KLOPPENBURG and QUAKENBRUCK, delivery aircraft at four airfields: No. 27 (OLDENBURG), No. 28 (VEGESACK), No. 33 (KLOPPENBURG), and No. 29 (BREMEN), the command posts of the Lilac 1st Army Corps and of the Brown 1st and 4th army corps, and the 36th Hawk Battalion; and to inflict destruction on: the Brown 1st Motorized Infantry Division with 10 missiles, Brown 15th Motorized Infantry Division with seven missiles, Brown 14th Motorized Infantry Division with four missiles, Brown 16th Tank Division with four missiles, and Brown 27th Airborne Brigade with three missiles.

The army will be allocated 56 missiles for the operation: 15 R-300 missiles (2x20 kt, 4x40 kt, 9x100 kt); 41 R-65 missiles (3x3 kt, 10x10 kt, and 28x20 kt); 17 regimental sorties of fighter-bomber aviation, 24 regimental sorties of army aviation, and 8 nuclear bombs (5x20 kt, 3x100 kt).

The command post of the army will be in a forest 5 km east of STENDAL. The relocation axis will be CELLE, VERDEN, PAPENBURG.

The left boundary line: RATHENOW, GARDELEGEN, NEUSTADT. Upon the commitment of the 6th Army to battle, the boundary will be WIETZENDORF, SYKE, EMEN.

c) The 9th Army (6th, 18th, 21st, and 23rd motorized rifle divisions, 10th and 26th tank divisions, 9th Army Missile Brigade, 9th Army Artillery

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Brigade, 9th Surface-to-Air Missile Brigade) with the 11th Artillery Division of the RVGK, the 3rd Battalion of the 21st Engineer Position Preparation Regiment, the 11th Engineer Obstacle Clearing Battalion (up to D3), and the 20th Pontoon Bridge Regiment (from D5) will repel a possible enemy attack with its covering troops in their fixed positions and with head-on attacks by the army's main forces, and it will develop the offensive on the WOLFSBURG, MINDEN axis, with part of its forces to BODENWERDER.

The immediate task, in cooperation with the 7th Army, will be to destroy the Brown 1st Army Corps, and with the 3rd Army of the Western Front encircle and destroy the Blue 1st Army Corps and the Violet 1st Army Corps, make an assault crossing of the WESER River from the march, and on the third to fourth day of the operation seize the MINDEN, LUGDE line. By the close of the first day of the operation it will reach the MEINERSEN, PEINE, SALZGITTER line.

The follow-up task will be to develop the offensive on the MINDEN, MUNSTER axis and, in cooperation with the 6th Army, destroy the enemy's operational reserves and on the fifth to sixth day of the operation seize the (excluding) BORGHORST, HAMM line.

In the initial nuclear strike, it will employ 44 nuclear munitions to destroy: the 4th Pershing Missile Squadron, [redacted] delivery aircraft at two airfields: No. 46 (DETMÖLD) and No. 43 (GUTERSLOH), the command posts of the Blue 1st Army Corps and Lilac 2nd Army Corps, the 3rd and 35th Hawk surface-to-air missile battalions, and the 36th Thunderbird Regiment, and inflict destruction on: the Blue 1st Armored Division with seven missiles, Blue 2nd Armored Division with seven missiles, Brown 1st Motorized Infantry Division with three missiles, and Brown 7th Tank Division with seven missiles.

The army will be allocated 62 missiles for the operation: 16 R-300 missiles (3x20 kt, 4x40 kt, 9x100 kt); 46 R-65 missiles (4x3 kt, 10x10 kt, 32x20 kt); 16 regimental sorties of fighter-bomber aviation, 24 regimental sorties of army aviation, and 7 nuclear bombs (1x20 kt and 6x50 kt).

The command post of the army will be in the forest 5 km east of TANGERHÜTTE. The relocation axis will be: WOLFSBURG, BUCKEBURG, MUNSTER.

d) The 2nd Army Corps (the 16th and 24th motorized rifle divisions and 2nd Corps Missile Brigade), upon commitment to battle with the 1st Gun

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Artillery Brigade and 4th Heavy Howitzer Brigade of the 6th Artillery Division of the RVGK, will be the second echelon of the front. It will be concentrated in the area of FRANZBURG, DEMMIN, WOLGAST in readiness from the morning of the second to third day of the operation to be committed to battle from the line (excluding) BAD OLDESLOE, GRUNWALD, and to develop the offensive on the BARGTEHEIDE, UTERSEN axis.

The immediate task will be, in cooperation with the 7th Army on the third to fourth day of the operation, to encircle the enemy's HAMBURG grouping.

The follow-up task will be, on the fifth to sixth day of the operation in cooperation with the 7th Army, to complete the destruction of the enemy's HAMBURG grouping and become the front reserve. Upon commitment to battle the 8th Motorized Rifle Division will be transferred to the corps.

The corps' zone of movement will be: on the right -- FRANZBURG, WISMAR, REINFELD; on the left -- ALTENTREPTOW, PARCHIM, AHRENSBURG.

The day halt areas will be: (excluding) SCHWERIN, PARCHIM, STERNBERG.

In the initial nuclear strike of the front, it will employ six nuclear warheads to destroy: the 450th Sergeant Missile Battalion

The corps will be allocated 14 missiles for its combat actions: eight R-300 missiles (1x20 kt, 4x40 kt, 3x100 kt), six R-65 missiles (1x3 kt, 2x10 kt, 3x20 kt); three regimental sorties of fighter-bomber aviation and four regimental sorties of army aviation.

The corps' command post will be in the forest 5 km west of GREIFSWALD and during commitment to battle, 10 km southwest of BAD OLDESLOE.

The left boundary line: BOIZENBURG and further along the ELBE River.

e) The 6th Army (12th, 17th, and 28th motorized rifle divisions, 19th Tank Division, 6th Army Missile Battery, 6th Army Artillery Brigade) will be the front's second echelon. It will be concentrated in the area of CIEDIENIK, ORANIENBURG, FURSTENWALDE, WRIEZEN in readiness from the morning of the third to fourth day of the operation to enter into the battle from the FALLINGBOSTEL, BISSENDORF or SYKE, UCHTE line and to develop the offensive on the NIENBURG, RHEINE axis.

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The immediate task, in cooperation with the 7th and 9th armies, will be to destroy the enemy's operational reserves and on the fifth to sixth day of the operation seize the MEPPEN, BORGHORST line where it will be in readiness to support the commitment to battle of the 10th Tank Army from the FURSTENAU, (excluding) OSNABRUCK or OLDENZAAL, BORGHORST line on the GRONAU, EINDHOVEN axis.

The follow-up task will be to develop the offensive on the LINGEN, ARNHEM axis and, in cooperation with the 10th Tank Army, destroy the main forces of the Northern Army Group east of the IJSSEL River, make an assault crossing of it from the march and on the eighth to ninth day of the operation seize the AMERSFOORT, 'S-HERTOGENBOSCH line.

Upon the army's commitment to battle, the 5th Tank Division will be transferred to it and the army will be reinforced by: the 8th Artillery Division of the RVGK (minus the 2nd Gun Artillery Brigade), the 23rd Pontoon Bridge Regiment, and the 12th Engineer Obstacle Clearing Battalion.

The army's zone of movement is: on the right -- GRANSEE, SALZWEDEL, WALSRODE; on the left -- FURSTENWALDE, HALDENSLEBEN, (excluding) HANNOVER. The day rest areas will be: KALBE, COLBITZ, BURG, BRANDENBURG.

In the initial nuclear strike it will employ 12 nuclear munitions to destroy: the 150th Lance Missile Battalion, the 24th and 50th Lance missile regiments, delivery aircraft at airfield No. 30 (DELMENHORST), and two control and warning posts (FALLINGBOSTEL, BAD MUNDER).

The army will be allocated 34 missiles for the operation: 17 R-300 missiles (3x20 kt, 5x40 kt, 9x100 kt); 17 R-65 missiles (3x3 kt, 5x10 kt, 9x20 kt); 12 regimental sorties of fighter-bomber aviation, 18 regimental sorties of army aviation, and 6 nuclear bombs (2x5 kt, 1x20 kt, and 3x10 kt).

The command post of the army will be in the forest 10 km southwest of EBERSWALDE; during commitment to battle it will be in the forest 3 km north of WOLTHAUSEN or in the forest 15 km northwest of NIENBURG. The relocation axis will be: SULINGEN, QUAKENBRUCK.

The boundary line will be: on the right -- (excluding) WIETZENDORF, SYKE, EMMEN, MEPPEN; on the left -- NEUSTADT, BORGHORST.

f) The 10th Army (15th, 22nd, and 25th tank divisions, 29th Motorized Rifle Division, 10th Army Missile Brigade, 10th Army Artillery Brigade, 10th

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10th Surface-to-Air Missile Brigade) will be the second echelon of the front. By morning of the second day of the operation it will be concentrated in the area of BARLINEK, WITNICA, SWIEBODZIN, and PNIEMY in readiness on the fifth to sixth day of the operation to enter into battle from the FURSTENAU, (excluding) OSNABRUCK or OLDENZAAL, BORGHORST line and develop the offensive on the GRONAU, EINDHOVEN axis.

The immediate task, in cooperation with the 6th and 9th armies, will be to complete the destruction of the main forces of the Northern Army Group east of the IJSSEL and RHINE rivers and make an assault crossing from the march of the RHINE River and on the eighth to ninth day of the operation seize the EINDHOVEN, ROERMOND line.

The follow-up task, in cooperation with the 6th Army, will be to continue to develop the offensive, destroy the enemy's reserves west of the RHINE River, and on the 10th to 12th day of the operation seize the SOIGNIES, DINANT line.

Upon commitment to battle the army will be reinforced by the 11th Artillery Division of the RVGK (minus the 15th Heavy Howitzer Brigade and the 12th Rocket Launcher Artillery Brigade), the 22nd Pontoon Bridge Regiment, and the 27th Assault Crossing Battalion.

The army's zone of movement: on the right -- BARLINEK, CIEDIENIK, WITTENBERG, WALSRÖDE, LINGEN; on the left -- SWIEBODZIN, ALTENGRABOW, (excluding) HANNOVER, BORGHORST. The areas for day rests will be: KALBE, HALDENSLEBEN, RATHENOW, WALSRÖDE, NIENBURG, (excluding) HANNOVER, CELLE.

The army will be allocated 16 missiles for the operation: six R-300 missiles (2x20 kt, 4x40 kt); 10 R-65 missiles (6x10 kt, 4x10 kt /sic/), and six nuclear bombs (1x10 kt, 2x20 kt, 3x100 kt).

The command post of the army will be in a forest 5 km west of TRZCIEL, upon commitment to battle in a forest 5 km west of DAMME, or in a forest 5 km west of RHEINE.

The boundary line will be: on the right -- (excluding) HORDHORN, (excluding) VEGHEL, (excluding) EDINGEN; on the left -- BORGHORST, WESEL, DINANT.

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g) For the landing forces:

-- the 30th Airborne Division will be the airborne landing force. From the morning of the fifth to sixth day of the operation, it will make an airborne landing in the area of EMMERICH, GROESBEEK, KEVELAER, XANTEN to destroy enemy units in the landing area and by the close of the day seize the crossings over the RHINE River in the ARNHEM, WESEL area and assist the troops of the 10th Tank Army in the assault crossing of the river from the march.

To support the fulfillment of the airborne division's task, 10 nuclear munitions will be employed: two R-300 missiles (40 and 100 kt) and eight bombs (4x50 kt; 4x100 kt). The landing and combat actions of the division will be supported by: nine regimental sorties of fighter aviation, three regimental sorties of fighter-bomber aviation, and two regimental sorties of bomber aviation.

The 16th Motorized Rifle Division and the 61st and 62nd naval infantry regiments will be the amphibious landing force. From the morning of the first day of the operation, the 62nd Naval Infantry Regiment and the 48th Motorized Rifle Regiment will seize FEMARN Island, and from the morning of the second day of the operation, the 16th Motorized Rifle Division (minus the 48th Motorized Rifle Regiment) and the 61st Naval Infantry Regiment will land in the area of KIEL and seize the naval base.

In support of fulfilling the task, the landing force will employ six nuclear munitions: two R-300 missiles (40 and 100 kt) and four bombs (2x5 kt, 2x10 kt). The combat actions of the landing force will be supported by six regimental sorties of fighter aviation and one regimental sortie of bomber aviation.

h) The 2nd Front Missile Brigade will employ 18 missiles in the initial nuclear strike of the front and destroy: the 1st and 2nd Pershing missile squadrons, [redacted], delivery aircraft at airfield No. 16 (WURSTERHEIDE), the 37th Hawk Surface-to-Air Missile Battalion, and will also inflict destruction on the Lilac 4th Motorized Infantry Division with five missiles.

The brigade will have 26 R-300 missiles (3x20 kt, 8x40 kt, 15x100 kt) allocated to it.

The siting areas will be LUBZ, (excluding) PUTLITZ, and (excluding) PLAU.

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i) The 3rd Front Missile Brigade will employ 18 missiles in the initial nuclear strike and destroy: the 3rd Pershing missile squadron, [redacted], delivery aircraft at three airfields: No. 41 (OSNABRUCK), No. 23 (BUCKEBURG), No. 34 (DIEPHOLZ), the 5th Hawk Surface-to-Air Missile Battalion, and will also inflict destruction on the Lilac 101st Motorized Infantry Division with five missiles.

The brigade will have 27 R-300 missiles (5x20 kt, 6x40 kt, and 16x100 kt) allocated to it.

The siting areas will be: PESSIN, (excluding) PREMnitz, (excluding) BRANDENBURG.

j) The 1st Air Army (1st, 3rd, and 5th fighter divisions; 2nd, 4th /sic -- 5th/, and 8th fighter bomber divisions; 6th Bomber Division, 20th Operational Reconnaissance Air Regiment, 21st and 22nd tactical reconnaissance air regiments, 23rd Separate Electronic Countermeasures Air Regiment, 24th and 25th /illegible -- ?separate helicopter regiments/, 4th, 6th, 7th, 9th, and 10th separate fire support helicopter regiments, 1st Communications Air Regiment, and 26th Transport Air Regiment), with the 17th and 18th S-125 surface-to-air missile regiments.

During the offensive operation of the front, it will:

-- conduct reconnaissance, search for and destroy the enemy's missile/nuclear means and delivery aircraft; observe the relocation of the enemy's operational reserves and control posts;

-- support the combat actions of the front's troops during repulse of a surprise enemy invasion and during the operation;

-- together with the front's air defense troops and the 8th Air Defense Army, cover the troops and rear services installations against enemy air strikes, especially the rocket troops and the 7th and 9th armies during the breakthrough of the forward line of defense and the assault crossing of the WESER River; the 6th Army and the 10th Tank Army during their advance, commitment to battle, and assault crossing of the IJSEL and RHINE rivers;

-- combat the enemy's operational reserves -- the Lilac 1st and 2nd army corps, Blue 2nd Army Corps, Violet 2nd Army Corps, and separate divisions; support the landing on D2 of the amphibious force, and from the morning of D5 and D6, of the airborne force, and support their combat actions.

In the front's initial nuclear strike 200 nuclear bombs will be

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employed to destroy: one bomb against the delivery aircraft at airfield No. 31 (BERGER), [redacted]

[redacted] two bombs each against the command posts of the Northern Army Group and the 2nd Allied Tactical Air Force, three against the 24th Hawk Missile Battalion and four against the 25th Hawk Missile Battalion; and destruction will be inflicted upon: the Green 4th Mechanized Division with 18 nuclear bombs; the Brown 11th and 13th motorized infantry divisions, Brown 3rd Tank Division, and Blue 4th Armored Division with 16 nuclear bombs against each; the Brown 6th Motorized Infantry Division and 16th Tank Division with 12 nuclear bombs against each; the Brown 14th Motorized Infantry Division and Lilac 1st Motorized Infantry Division with 11 nuclear bombs against each; the Blue 1st Armored Division with 10 nuclear bombs; the Brown 7th Tank Division with nine nuclear bombs; the Brown 15th Motorized Infantry Division and Blue 2nd Armored Division with eight nuclear bombs against each; the Brown 18th and 21st motorized infantry divisions with six nuclear bombs against each; the Lilac 4th Motorized Infantry Division with five nuclear bombs; and the Lilac 5th Motorized Infantry Division with four nuclear bombs. All will be air burst bombs.

A reserve in the air of 15 delivery aircraft with nuclear bombs will be provided to destroy those nuclear attack means and other important installations of the enemy which have survived.

Upon the start of combat actions with conventional means of destruction, the initial strike of the air operation will destroy the on-alert detachments of the 2nd Pershing Missile Wing; the batteries of the 650th and 150th Lance missile battalions, of the 24th and 50th Lance missile regiments, and of the 450th Sergeant Missile Battalion; and the aircraft and runways at airfields No. 3 (LECK), No. 7 (HUSUM), No. 24 (WITTMUND), No. 27 (OLDENBURG), No. 31 (BERGER), No. 37 (HOPSTEN), No. 43 (GUTERSLOH); and it will also knock out the runways and mine the airfields against which the 3rd Separate Heavy Bomber Air Corps of Long-Range Aviation will deliver a strike. In the follow-up massed strikes, the main forces will concentrate on completing the destruction of the 3rd and 4th divisions of the Brown Air Tactical Command, the Blue Air Force, and on searching out and destroying the enemy's nuclear attack means.

The army will be allocated 18 army sorties and 320 nuclear bombs for the operation. According to the plan of the Supreme High Command, three army sorties will participate in the air operation.

The command post of the army will be in a forest 6 km northwest of

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LINDOW.

k) Air defense troops of the front:

In cooperation with fighter aviation of the 1st Air Army, the air defense of front troops and rear services installations will be organized and accomplished by forces and means of the 8th Air Defense Army's 5th and 6th corps and of the Combined Baltic Fleet, and by the air defense troops of the Western Front.

The main efforts of the air defense will be focused:

- in the departure position for the offensive -- on covering the troop groupings in the areas of GREVESMUHLEN, HAGENOW, PLAU, KALBE, MAGDEBURG, NAUEN; /and on covering/ the rocket troops, aviation, front control posts, and ELBE River bridges and crossings;
- during the offensive -- on covering the main forces of the front, the rocket troops, the aviation, and the control posts on the CELLE, BRUSSELS axis, especially during the breakthrough of defense lines, assault crossings of rivers and canals, during repulse of counterthrusts, and during the commitment to battle of the front's second echelon -- the 6th Army and 10th Tank Army.

Cover for large units of long-range and naval missile-carrying aviation during their flights within the front area will be provided within the overall air defense system.

1) Radioelectronic neutralization units will:

- disorganize the control of troops, combat equipment, and weapons of the attack grouping of troops of the Northern Army Group and aviation of the 2nd Allied Tactical Air Force on the HANNOVER, BRUSSELS axis;
- neutralize by jamming, during the delivery of a nuclear strike by the enemy, the radio communications of the nuclear weapons units of the Brown 3rd dap /?Long-Range Aviation Regiment/, Brown 1st, 4th, and 6th army corps, and Blue 1st Army Corps;
- cover the 2nd and 3rd front missile brigades, the command post of the front, the ELBE River crossings, and the assault crossing by front troops of the WESER, IJSEL, and RHINE rivers;
- ensure stable control of front troops and the efficient use of combat equipment and weapons in the operation.

When combat actions are carried out employing conventional means of

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destruction only, main efforts will be concentrated on disrupting the enemy's control at the tactical level.

m) The front's reserves:

-- the combined-arms reserve (13th Motorized Rifle Division and 20th Tank Division) will occupy these departure areas, respectively: (excluding) MALCHOW, FREYENSTEIN, ROBEL; (excluding) BRANDENBURG, BRUCK, FICHTENWALDE. They are to be in readiness to relocate at the start of the offensive in the areas of the 7th and 9th armies;

-- Antitank Reserve No. 1 (4th Antitank Artillery Brigade) /will be in/ its departure area in the forest 3 km north of PRITZWALK. It will prepare lines of deployment: No. 1 -- PARUM, (excluding) LUBTHEEN; No. 2 -- PLATE, NEUSTADT-GLEWE; No. 3 -- (excluding) GRABOW, PERLEBERG; Antitank Reserve No. 2 (5th Antitank Artillery Brigade) /will be in/ its departure area in the forest 10 km south of TANGERHUTTE. It will prepare lines of deployment: No. 4 -- OSTERBURG, MESSDORF; No. 5 -- HALDENSLEBEN, NIEDERNDODELEBEN; No. 6 -- LEITZKAU, NEDLITZ, and be in the readiness to repel enemy tank attacks.

At the beginning of the offensive Antitank Reserve No. 1 will relocate in the 7th Army area and Antitank Reserve No. 2 will relocate in the 9th Army area and be in readiness to repel a possible counterthrust by enemy tanks;

-- Mobile Obstacle Detachment No. 1 (1st Battalion of the 20th Combat Engineer Regiment) will be positioned with Antitank Reserve No. 1 and be in readiness to act jointly with it. Mobile Obstacle Detachment No. 2 (12th Engineer Obstacle Battalion) will be positioned with Antitank Reserve No. 2 and be in readiness to act jointly with it;

-- the engineer troops (20th Combat Engineer Regiment, minus the 1st and 4th battalions, and 20th and 23rd pontoon bridge regiments, up to D4) /will be/ in their concentration areas, the forest 5 km west of BRANDENBURG, and they will be in readiness to relocate to the zones of attack of the 7th and 9th armies;

-- the chemical troops (1st Radiological Reconnaissance Helicopter Squadron) /will be in its/ basing areas of LINOW and BORNECKE and be in readiness to conduct aerial radiological reconnaissance in these zones: No. 1 -- GOLDBERG, PARCHIM, PERLEBERG, MIROW, (excluding) MALCHIN; No. 2 -- WITTSTOCK, WUSTERHAUSEN, CIEDIENIK, (excluding) NEUSTRELITZ; No. 3 -- TANGERMUNDE, BELZIG, BELITZ, VELTEN;

-- the 3rd Chemical Defense Brigade /will be in its/ area of concentration in the forest 10 km southeast of FREYENSTEIN and FRIESACK in readiness to carry out decontamination treatment at the 2nd and 3rd front

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missile brigades, 2nd and 3rd front mobile missile technical bases, 13th Motorized Rifle Division, 20th Tank Division, 2nd and 4th fighter-bomber divisions, and at the front control posts.

5. Departure areas for the offensive will be equipped and occupied by covering troops (reinforced with the motorized rifle regiments of the first-echelon large units -- the 1st, 8th, and 21st motorized rifle divisions) by 0600 hours 2 September; with first-echelon large units by 0530 hours 6 September, and with large units of the second echelon of the armies and of the front reserves by 0530 hours 7 September. Front troops will be ready for The offensive by 0500 hours 8 September; the transition to the offensive will be by special instructions.

6. With the receipt of nuclear warheads, combat alert status will be established in one missile battalion from each front missile brigade and army missile brigade, and the 6th Army Missile Brigade and 2nd Corps Missile Brigade will be on alert at full strength, as well as one flight /usually four aircraft/ from each fighter-bomber regiment and bomber regiment.

II.

Procedure for the cooperation of front troops, forces, and means in the operation.

I. When delivering the initial nuclear strike of the front.

In the initial nuclear strike in the front offensive zone, the following will be destroyed:

-- by the Strategic Rocket Forces -- enemy troops and targets west of the NORDEN, DORTMUND line;

-- by the Combined Baltic Fleet -- the aircraft at four airfields: No. 06 (EGGEBEK), No. 08 (JAGEL), No. 9 (RENDSEBURG), No. 10 (FRIEDRICHSORT); three mine depots (FLENSBURG, ECHERNFORDE, KIEL), and the command post of the combined naval forces (HOLTENAU).

In the initial nuclear strike, the front will destroy the missile/nuclear means, aircraft at airfields, nuclear weapons depots, control and warning centers, control posts, and air defense means and will inflict destruction on the ground grouping of the Northern Army Group troops east of the NORDEN, DORTMUND line.

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From LAUNCH to LAUNCH + 5, the rocket troops will deliver a nuclear strike against enemy installations whose coordinates are known. At the same time as the missile launch, the 1st Air Army will take off and during the period from LAUNCH + 12 to LAUNCH + 45 will deliver a strike against the planned targets and also conduct final reconnaissance of the targets whose coordinates are not known. Immediately following fulfillment of the task by the aviation, during the period from LAUNCH + 45 to LAUNCH + 50, the rocket troops, and also the separate missile battalions allocated for the follow-up launches, will deliver a strike against the final reconnaissance targets and newly-detected important targets.

At the moment the nuclear strike is delivered, front personnel will be under cover. The safe distance line for our troops will be located no closer than 4 to 5 km from the targets to be struck. The detonations will be of the air burst type.

During delivery of the initial nuclear strike at the beginning of the operation and in the event the front's first-echelon large units lose their combat effectiveness from the enemy's weapons of mass destruction, provisions have been made to replace them by large units of the second echelon of the first-echelon armies and /by large units/ of the front reserve.

If combat effectiveness is lost the 2nd Army Corps will replace the 4th Army, and the 6th Army will replace the 7th or 9th armies.

In case the initial nuclear strike is delivered during the operation, provisions have been made to commit the 10th Tank Army to the engagement, and starting the morning of D4, build up the efforts of the front troops on the axis of the main attack and rapidly develop the offensive for the purpose of quickly completing the destruction of the opposing troop grouping of the Northern Army Group and the aircraft of the 2nd Allied Tactical Air Force.

2. When repulsing an enemy invasion:

Repulse of enemy air strikes will be accomplished by forces and means of the air defense of the front in cooperation with fighter aviation of the 1st Air Army, the forces and means of the 6th Corps of the 8th Army of Air Defense of the Country, the Combined Baltic Fleet, and the Western Front.

Repulse of an invasion by an enemy ground grouping will be accomplished by covering troops from the lines of defense being occupied

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and by head-on attacks of the main forces of the first-echelon armies with support from front and army aviation.

To destroy the on-alert means of an enemy missile/nuclear grouping and to achieve air supremacy, an air operation will be carried out according to the plan of the Supreme High Command with participation of the 1st Air Army's aviation in three army sorties. Front fighter aviation will support the overflight of long-range and naval missile-carrying aviation in the zone: on the right -- STRALSUND, HUSUM; on the left -- NEUBRANDENBURG, LUBECK, CUXHAVEN; and it will also mine the airfields against which the 3rd Separate Heavy Bomber Air Corps of Long-Range Aviation will deliver a strike.

3. When front troops are fulfilling the immediate task.

Front troops will defeat the main forces of the Northern Army Group and the aviation of the 2nd Allied Tactical Air Force by delivering two splitting attacks. The main attack will be on the CELLE, BRUSSELS axis by the adjacent flanks of the 7th and 9th armies in the first echelon and the 6th Army and 10th Tank Army in the second echelon; the second attack will be on the JUTLAND axis by forces of the 4th Army in the first echelon and the 2nd Army Corps in the second echelon.

a) The transition of front troops to the offensive will be accomplished depending on the conditions under which the enemy unleashes war.

In case combat actions are initiated with nuclear weapons, front troops will deliver the initial nuclear strike and immediately following it go over to the offensive. The procedure for the transition to the offensive has been established as follows: first, the first-echelon large units and units that have retained their combat effectiveness will go over to the offensive; their efforts will be augmented on D /day one/ by the units and large units whose combat effectiveness has been restored; from the morning of D2, by the commitment /to battle/ of the second-echelon large units of the first-echelon armies, and of the front reserve; from the morning of D3, by the commitment to battle of the second echelon of the front. Combat actions of the ground forces will be supported by front and army aviation, which will destroy the enemy's nuclear attack means, deliver strikes against his reserves, and prevent him from carrying out measures to restore the combat effectiveness of his troops.

The rocket troops and aviation of the front will deliver group and

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single nuclear strikes against the enemy troop groupings that have retained their combat effectiveness and, by a rapid offensive, front troops will complete their defeat.

In case combat actions are initiated with conventional means of destruction, front troops will go over to the offensive after 15 to 20 minutes of preparatory fire against enemy troops who are covering the state border and have begun the invasion. The preparatory fire will begin at the same time that the aviation participating in the air operation is crossing the border. The destruction of the enemy's covering units will be accomplished by the forward detachments of the first-echelon large units. The main forces of the divisions will deliver attacks against the enemy's main forces.

b) When breaking through the enemy's forward line of defense, the main efforts of front troops will be concentrated as follows: by the 4th Army in the sector -- (excluding) MOISLING, (excluding) GROSSBERKENTHIN (8 km); by the 7th Army in the sector -- WESENDORF, (excluding) GIFHORN (8 km); by the 9th Army in the sector -- GIFHORN, MEINE (9 km). The breakthrough of the defense will be accomplished: in the 4th Army zone by the forces of two divisions; in the 7th Army zone by two divisions, and in the 9th Army zone by three divisions, with an artillery density of 108, 115, and 110 guns and mortars respectively per kilometer of the breakthrough sector. The duration of the planned preparatory fire is to be 37 minutes on the JUTLAND axis and 34 minutes on the CELLE, BRUSSELS axis.

During preparatory fire, front aviation will deliver strikes against enemy targets in the depth and on the flanks and army aviation will deliver strikes against antitank means in the breakthrough sectors.

c) Widening of the breakthrough and development of the operation will be accomplished by the subsequent commitment to battle of the second echelons of the first-echelon armies, of the reserve, and the second echelon of the front.

The 2nd Army Corps will be committed to battle on D2 to D3 from the (excluding) BAD OLDESLOE, GRUNWALD line on the BARGTEHEIDE, UTERSEN axis; from the morning of D3 to D4 the 6th Army /will be committed to battle/ from the FALLINGBOSTEL, BISSENDORF, or SYKE, UCHTE line on the NIENBURG, RHEINE axis.

Upon the 2nd Army Corps' commitment to battle, the main efforts of the 4th Army will be concentrated on developing the offensive into the depth,

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the assault crossing of the KIEL Canal from the march, and the fulfillment of the assigned tasks in the operation.

After the 6th Army's commitment to battle, the main efforts of the 7th Army will be concentrated on defeating the HAMBURG grouping of the enemy in cooperation with the 2nd Army Corps. At the same time, the 9th Army will, with part of its forces, deliver an attack on BODENWERDER and in cooperation with the 3rd Army of the Western Front will encircle and destroy the HANNOVER grouping of the enemy.

To assist the troops of the 4th Army in the rapid development of the offensive, on D and D2 the front, together with the forces of the Combined Baltic Fleet, will carry out an amphibious landing operation to seize FEMARN Island and the KIEL Naval Base with the forces of the 16th Motorized Rifle Division and the 61st and 62nd naval infantry regiments.

During completion of the immediate task of the front, the main forces of the Northern Army Group and the aviation of the 2nd Allied Tactical Air Forces will be destroyed.

Tactical airborne landings will be widely used to assist the troops in the assault crossings of the KIEL Canal and the WESER River.

4. When front troops are fulfilling the follow-up task.

To augment efforts when completing the fulfillment of the immediate task and the development of a rapid offensive during fulfillment of the follow-up task of the front, the 10th Tank Army will be committed to battle on D5 to D6 from the FURSTENAU, (excluding) OSNABRUCK, or OLDENZAAL, BORGHORST line on the GRONAU, EYTKHOVEN /sic -- EINDHOVEN/ axis. The main forces of the front, the 6th and 7th armies and the 10th Tank Army, will rapidly develop the offensive, complete the destruction of the main forces of the Northern Army Group east of the IJSSEL and RHINE rivers, make assault crossings of them from the march, and fulfill the task assigned to the front in the operation.

At the same time, the 9th Army, in cooperation with the adjacent force on the left, the 3rd Army of the Western Front, will encircle and destroy the RUHR grouping of the enemy while the 4th Army, having fulfilled its assigned task in the operation, will organize the defense of the seacoast in the south part of the JUTLAND Peninsula. Upon fulfillment of their tasks, the 9th Army and the 2nd Army Corps will move out to become the second echelon of the front.

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To assist front troops in the assault crossing of the RHINE River from the march, on D5 to D6 an airborne landing operation will be carried out with the landing of the 30th Airborne Division in the area of EMMERICH, GROESBEEK, KEVELAER, and XANTEN; and tactical airborne landings will also be employed.

5. The primary efforts of the air defense troops and the fighter aviation of the front will concentrate on covering the main grouping of troops on the axis of the main attack, especially in the departure position for the offensive, when breaking through the enemy's forward line of defense, in the assault crossings of wide water obstacles, and when committing to battle the second echelons of the armies and the front.

The air defense troops of the front will fulfill their tasks in close cooperation with the forces and means of the 6th Corps of Air Defense of the Country, the Combined Baltic Fleet, and the air defense troops of the Western Front.

Cooperation will be instituted in a single zone with efforts being allocated by altitude, direction, lines, and times of actions; with respect to zones of combat actions, fighter aviation will operate up to the kill zone of the anti-aircraft /and surface-to-air/ means.

To render assistance in repelling massed enemy air raids, provisions will be made for the reciprocal allocation of one fighter corps each, to /its/ full radius of action, from the Coastal and Western fronts.

An integrated system for reconnaissance and mutual warning of the air enemy will be provided for among the cooperating forces and means.

Control over the air defense and fighter aviation forces and means during the joint repulse of enemy air strikes will be accomplished from the front's air defense command post.

6. Front troops will cooperate with the forces of the Combined Baltic Fleet in the delivery of the initial nuclear strike, in the conduct of the amphibious landing operation, and in the course of destroying the troop groupings of the Northern Army Group and the aviation of the 2nd Allied Tactical Air Force.

In support of the front, the Combined Baltic Fleet will deliver strikes against airfields and other enemy installations on land, interdict strikes by the enemy fleet against the front troops, and transport materiel

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for the front troops.

In support of the fleet, the front, in turn, will seize enemy naval bases and ports, remove obstacles and mines from the territories /of these bases and ports/, cover the ships of the fleet in the coastal zone from enemy air strikes, and, jointly with the fleet, remove obstacles and mines from the KIEL Canal and support the passage of the ships from the Baltic to the North Sea by the shortest route.

III.

Organization of the control of front troops in the operation.

1. As of 1500 hours 1 September, the responsible generals and officers will be placed in on-alert status at the staffs of the front, armies, the corps, large units, and units.

2. As of 0400 hours 7 September, the front command post will be in the forest 10 km northwest of NEURUPPIN. The relocation axis will be: CELLE, DIEPHOLZ, BRUSSELS.

The alternate command post, as of 0400 hours 6 September, will be in the forest 10 km northwest of GENTHIN.

The rear control post, as of 0500 hours 7 September, will be in the forest 6 km south of FURSTENBERG.

The disposition areas for control posts will be readied and occupied by operations groups by the morning of 2 September.

3. The control and communications system will be readied by 2000 hours 5 September. Control posts will be occupied by the staffs by the morning of 6 September.

4. Up to the start of the operation, radio communications will be provided by fixed transmitters from the permanent location areas operating under peacetime conditions. It will be forbidden to conduct communications traffic and transmit over open radio, radio-relay, and wire channels /any/ information concerning preparation of the operation.

5. Control of front troops, when they are placed on alert status, moving out, and occupying the departure areas for the offensive, will be

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exercised from control posts in the permanent garrisons. Control over the actions of combat support (covering) units will be exercised from the alternate command posts of the armies and divisions.

6. Combat alert status will be established in staffs and at the sites of missile units. The on-alert forces and means of the rocket troops will be centrally controlled from the front command post.

7. Centralized warning of the troops about the air situation will be accomplished:

- up to the start of the operation -- from the command post of the 6th Air Defense Corps;
- during the operation -- from the air defense command post of the front and the air defense command posts of the armies.

Control of the on-alert forces and means of the air defense of the front, up to the troops' occupation of the departure position for the offensive, in the departure area, and during the operation, will be exercised from the air defense command post of the front and the air defense command posts of the armies, but fighter aviation will be controlled from the fighter division (regiment) command post.

8. In case the front's command post, alternate command post, and rear control post are rendered inoperative, the commander and staff of the 6th Army will be charged with troop control.

IV.

Instructions of the front commander concerning planning and support of the operation -- 75 to 80 minutes.

Students in the capacity of front commander will report the instructions on:

- planning the front offensive operation;
- ensuring constant readiness to deliver the initial nuclear strike and repel a possible enemy invasion;
- organizing political work;
- reconnaissance;
- protection of the troops and rear installations against weapons of mass destruction;

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- engineer support;
- operational camouflage;
- electronic warfare;
- rear services support.

Content of the instructions of the front commander.

1. On planning the front offensive operation:

a) The front offensive operation will be planned according to /these/ tasks: the immediate task will be to a depth of 250 km and last five to six days; the follow-up task will be to a depth of 350 km and last five to six days. The planned tasks for the first-echelon armies: the immediate task will be to a depth of 120 to 140 km; on the first day of the operation to a depth of 30 to 40 km. The troops' average rate of advance during fulfillment of the front's immediate task will be 40 to 50 km /per day/ and for the follow-up task it will be 60 to 70 km /per day/.

The initial nuclear strike of the front will be planned in greatest detail; it will provide for: the employment of 376 nuclear munitions (176 to the rocket troops and 200 to aviation), the destruction of the 2nd Pershing Missile Wing, the 150th and 650th Lance missile battalions, the 24th and 50th Lance missile regiments, the 450th Sergeant Missile Battalion, the delivery aircraft at 14 airfields, 17 nuclear weapons depots, five control and warning centers (posts); the command post of the Northern Army Group and of the 2nd Allied Tactical Air Force, six army corps command posts, two battalions of Nike surface-to-air missiles, eight battalions of Hawk surface-to-air missiles, the 36th Thunderbird Regiment, and the infliction of 75 to 80 percent damage on 13 divisions and 30 to 50 percent damage on four divisions.

Planned in detail will be the fulfillment of the immediate tasks of the first-echelon armies, especially troop actions on the first day of the operation, during the breakthrough of prepared lines of defense, during the encirclement and destruction of the enemy's HANNOVER and HAMBURG groupings, and also during the commitment to battle of the second echelon of the front -- on D2 to D3, and the 10th Tank Army on D5 to D6.

In the process, destruction of the enemy, in the event he invades our territory, will be provided for: by the covering large units and units, by the antitank reserves, and by head-on attacks of the main forces of the front first-echelon armies.

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The stockpiling, distribution, and concealment of materiel will be completed by 0600 hours 7 September.

b) Plans are that troops will make the transition to the offensive from the departure position, which is to be prepared from the engineer standpoint in the period from 3 September to 7 September; for covering units, defense areas of 1 to 3 km will be prepared; the departure areas for combined-arms large units and the siting areas for missile brigades will be prepared in conformity with the concept of the operation at a distance from the state border which will ensure their fullest effective actions.

The disposition of front troops in departure areas must ensure successful conduct of combat actions both in repelling a surprise enemy attack and in the transition to the offensive employing nuclear weapons or conventional means of destruction only.

c) Movement of the front second echelon to the lines of commitment to battle is planned as follows:

The 6th Army -- in two nights in the zone: on the right -- GRANSEE, SALZWEDEL, WALSRODE, on the left -- FURSTENWALDE, HALDENSLEBEN, (excluding) HANNOVER. The areas for day rests will be: KALBE, COLBITZ, BURG, BRANDENBURG;

The 2nd Army Corps -- in two nights in the zone: on the right -- FRANZBURG, WISMAR, REINFELD; on the left -- ALTENTREPTOW, PARCHIM, AHRENSBURG. The areas for day rests will be: (excluding) SCHWERIN, PARCHIM, STERNBERG.

The 10th Tank Army -- in three nights in the zone: on the right -- BARLINEK, CIEDIENIK, WITTENBERGE, WALSRODE, LINGEN; on the left -- SWIEBODZIN, ALTENGRABOW, (excluding) HANNOVER, BORGHORST. The areas for day rests will be: KALBE, HALDENSLEBEN, RATHENOW, WALSRODE, NIENBURG (excluding) HANNOVER, CELLE.

The relocation of large units of the front combined-arms reserve during the operation is planned as follows: up to fulfillment of the front's immediate task /it will occur/ in the zones of the 7th and 9th armies; during fulfillment of the follow-up task /it will be/ in the zones of the 6th Army and 10th Tank Army.

d) To support the operational deployment of front troops, the following has been stipulated: allocated to reinforce the cover of the

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state borders are one reinforced motorized rifle regiment from each first-echelon division and three divisions (1st, 8th, and 21st motorized rifle divisions) at full strength, which will have concentrated their efforts on the axes of probable enemy attacks: HAMBURG, SZCZECIN, HANNOVER, MAGDEBURG. On the critical avenues of tank approach, a density will be established of 15 to 20 antitank means and 0.7 to 0.8 engineer obstacles per kilometer of frontage.

Seaward cover will be organized in cooperation with the Combined Baltic Fleet. The 2nd Tank Division of the 4th Army will make provisions to take action in the WUSTROW, WISMAR sector and the 24th Motorized Rifle Division of the 2nd Army Corps /will do the same/ in the SWINOUJSCIE, BARTH sector.

e) Plans are for front troops to occupy the departure position for the offensive on two nights: From 5 to 6 September and from 6 to 7 September. Covering units and large units are to move out to their areas on the night of 2 September. The moving out of troops to departure areas will involve the conduct of operational camouflage measures. Special attention will be given to concealing the rocket troop groupings, front main forces, control posts, and attack axes.

f) In an offensive where nuclear weapons are not employed, plans are to break through the enemy's forward line of defense by concentrating efforts on the axes of the attacks so as to establish a two- to threefold superiority in tanks and artillery over the enemy.

In the sectors for breaking through the defense, provision will be made to establish the necessary artillery density and determine the duration of the preparatory fire respectively.

g) To find the enemy's nuclear attack means and detect his preparations to employ nuclear weapons, a most thorough reconnaissance will be planned, exploiting for this purpose all types of reconnaissance and up to 30 percent of the reconnaissance aircraft of the 1st Air Army.

For the timely destruction of the enemy's nuclear attack means that are detected there will be: one on-alert flight in each fighter-bomber regiment when combat actions are conducted employing conventional means of destruction; one launch battery in each missile battalion of the missile brigades when combat actions are conducted employing nuclear weapons.

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h) To assist front troops in the assault crossing of the RHINE River from the march, an airborne landing operation will be planned. Provision will be made for the 30th Airborne Division to be landed as of the morning of D5 to D6 in the area of EMERICH, GROESBEEK, KEVELAER, XANTEN, with the task of seizing the crossing in the (excluding) ARNHEM, WESEL sector.

To support the fulfillment of the task of the 30th Airborne Division, provision will be made to allocate nine regimental sorties of fighter aviation, three /regimental/ sorties of fighter-bomber aviation, two of bomber aviation, two of radioelectronic warfare /aviation/, and, with the use of nuclear weapons, two missiles and eight nuclear bombs /will be allocated/.

i) To seize FEHMARN Island and the KIEL Naval Base an amphibious landing operation will be planned. FEHMARN Island will be seized by the forces of the 62nd Naval Infantry Regiment from the morning of D, and the 16th Motorized Rifle Division and the 61st Naval Infantry Regiment will seize the KIEL Naval Base on D2.

To support the conduct of the amphibious landing operation, provision will be made to employ two missiles and four nuclear bombs and to allocate 11 regimental sorties of aviation (to include three of fighter-bomber aviation, six of fighter aviation, one of bomber aviation, and one of radioelectronic warfare /aviation/).

j) To maintain high discipline in the departure position for front troops and to combat enemy airborne landing forces and sabotage groups, zones of responsibility will be established: for the first-echelon armies -- in their zones up to their rear boundary lines inclusive; for the 6th Army, 10th Tank Army, 2nd Army Corps, and large units of the front combined-arms reserve in their disposition areas.

k) The plan for the front offensive operation will be reported to him /front commander/ for approval at 2400 hours 1 September.

Generals and officers will be allocated to develop the plan for the operation according to the approved list.

2. On ensuring constant readiness to deliver the initial nuclear strike and repel a possible enemy invasion.

a) The main efforts of reconnaissance forces and means will be concentrated on the timely discovery of the targets for the initial nuclear

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strike and the beginning of an advance of enemy ground forces going over to the offensive. Reconnaissance will be carried out continuously: before the start of combat actions -- without violation of state borders; during combat actions -- within the entire area of the front offensive and to the entire depth of the operation;

b) the forces and means participating in the initial nuclear strike of the front will be maintained at a high level of combat readiness for its delivery. To this end, the following will be provided for:

-- rocket troop primary and alternate siting areas and the dispersal airfields for aviation in the departure position for the offensive will be prepared by the close of 3 September and they will be occupied by the morning of 6 September;

-- nuclear munitions for the rocket troops and aviation will be issued and prepared upon departure to and occupation of the rocket troop siting areas and the dispersal airfields for aviation;

-- allocation of on-alert means upon receipt of the nuclear munitions to destroy the enemy's nuclear attack means will be one missile battalion per front missile brigade and army missile brigade; the 6th Army Missile Brigade and the 2nd Corps Missile Brigade will be on alert at full strength, and also one flight from each fighter-bomber regiment and bomber regiment /will be on alert/;

-- timely update of the plan for the initial nuclear strike of the front and of the tasks of the troops;

-- systematic check of the system controlling the forces and means allocated to deliver the initial nuclear strike and of their knowledge of the control and warning signals.

c) Repulse of a possible enemy invasion will be done as follows: against ground forces by covering troops from the areas they occupy and by meeting attacks by the main forces of the first-echelon armies; against aviation by the forces and means of the front's air defense in cooperation with the air defense troops of the 8th Army of Air Defense of the Country, the Western Front, and the air defense forces and means of the Combined Baltic Fleet. To do this, provision will be made:

-- to reinforce the cover of state borders by allocating one motorized rifle regiment from the first-echelon large units, and to have the 1st, 8th, and 21st motorized rifle divisions at full strength occupy the defense areas by the morning of 2 September;

-- in addition to the covering troops' artillery, to move forward and deploy beforehand in temporary firing positions part of the division

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artillery groups and army artillery groups of the divisions and armies of the first echelon of the front, and also of the antitank reserves and mobile obstacle detachments of the armies and front;

-- to destroy by fire enemy groupings on distant approaches, in probable areas of deployment, and during /their/ transition to the attack;

-- to prepare from the engineer standpoint the departure areas for front troops for the offensive, taking into account the possibility of having to repulse an enemy invasion from fixed positions;

-- to prepare the lines for deployment of the antitank reserves and mobile obstacle detachments of the armies and the front, and also to set up a system of engineer obstacles on the probable axes of enemy attacks;

-- to opportunely prepare from the engineer standpoint and have front troops occupy the departure areas for the offensive and to disperse aviation in a timely manner;

-- to establish an air defense system which will ensure the timely detection of the air enemy and the reliable cover of rocket troops, aviation, control posts, and the main grouping of troops in the departure position for the offensive. To repel surprise enemy air attacks, the following will be on combat alert status: one surface-to-air missile battalion in each surface-to-air missile brigade and regiment, one battery in each antiaircraft artillery regiment; the 17th and 18th S-125 surface-to-air missile regiments will be at full strength; and also one flight from each fighter regiment /will be on combat alert/. Reserves of 1.5 units of fire of missiles and warheads will be established in the siting areas for the on-alert air defense means.

3. On organizing political work

In the period of preparation and during the operation:

-- by all means and forms of political work the contents of the documents of the Central Committee of the CPSU and of the Soviet government and the resolutions of the Congress of the CPSU will be explained to all personnel, and, on this basis, personnel will be informed of the combat task and the ways and methods of fulfilling it; soldiers, sergeants, warrant officers, and officers will be mobilized to achieve success in battle and the unconditional and exact fulfillment of combat orders; the continuity and activity of party political work will be ensured;

-- /political/ work will be intensified to raise the morale of the troops and the aggressive spirit of the soldiers, to motivate the personnel to have high vigilance and class hatred toward the enemies of our Homeland, to have solid moral-political and psychological qualities;

-- on the basis of the concept and plan for the offensive operation,

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political measures will be made explicit and carried out concerning the fulfillment of combat tasks by front troops and naval forces;

-- soldiers will be mobilized for the high-quality assimilation of combat equipment and weapons, their skillful and effective use, and their maintenance in a constant state of combat readiness; and also personnel will be indoctrinated with confidence in the power of their own weapons and equipment;

-- the readiness of personnel for mass destruction will be constantly maintained. Soldiers will be mobilized to skillfully /and rapidly/ exploit the results of nuclear strikes by our troops, to courageously and aggressively take action in a situation where the enemy employs these weapons, and to rapidly eliminate their aftereffects and restore the combat effectiveness of the troops;

-- constant communications will be maintained in the matter of the mutual exchange of experience in combat and political work with the commanders and political organs of the cooperating formations and large units; and with the troops of the allied armies, joint measures to ensure fulfillment of combat tasks will be coordinated and carried out;

-- unceasing concern about the training of officers and the accumulation of reserves of political workers will be manifested; communists will be properly placed, thereby obtaining continuous party influence primarily over the troops fulfilling the combat task;

-- unceasing concern will be manifested over the continuous provisioning of personnel with everything necessary for combat, over the satisfaction of their material, everyday, and cultural needs, and over the timely medical aid and evacuation of wounded and sick;

-- political work will be established among the enemy troops and population for the purpose of undermining combat morale, breaking the will to resist, inducing desertion and surrender, or other forms /of it/ for removing them from war.

In case the enemy employs nuclear, special, and biological weapons, the primary task of political work will be to carry out measures directed at rapidly eliminating the aftereffects of the enemy's employment of weapons of mass destruction and restoring the combat effectiveness of the units and large units, to maintain at a high level the combat morale and combat discipline of the personnel that find themselves in a zone of destruction, and to overcome the possible manifestation of psychological depression and confusion.

4. On supporting the operation:

a) On reconnaissance.

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1. The objective of reconnaissance will be to detect the immediate preparations of West for an attack and the intention of the command of the Northern Army Group and the 2nd Allied Tactical Air Force to conduct combat actions, to determine the time and possible method of the attack, and to follow changes in the composition, grouping, and nature of the enemy's troops during the operation.

2. The major tasks of reconnaissance:

a) Before the start of the operation:

-- to conduct continuous observation of missile/nuclear weapons units and delivery aircraft in their permanent garrison posts (at basing airfields) and combat alert areas, to detect in a timely manner the time of deployment (dispersal) and the locations of siting areas (dispersal airfields) for units, and also their readiness to deliver a nuclear strike;

-- to determine the locations of field supply and storage points for nuclear warheads and the time for issuing them to missile/nuclear weapons units (delivery aircraft);

-- to detect enemy measures for possible reinforcement of the Northern Army Group, to determine in a timely manner the advance of units and large units to their operational assignment areas, and to observe the establishment of strike groupings and the intentions of the enemy concerning their use, especially on the axes of: LUBECK, SCHLESWIG; BRAUNSCHWEIG, OSNABRÜCK;

-- to detect enemy measures for possible reinforcement of the air force and air defense groupings and the 2nd Allied Tactical Air Force, for rebasing of air units to forward airfields, and for deployment of air defense field means, and also to discover the intentions to use them;

-- to determine deployment areas of naval strike forces and observe the changes in their composition and activity in the North Sea and in the straits zone of the Baltic Sea;

-- to constantly verify the position and status of targets which by plan are to be struck in the front's initial nuclear strike.

b) During the operation:

-- to determine the extent of destruction of the enemy and his intention for follow-up conduct of combat actions;

-- to detect the undamaged missile/nuclear weapons units and delivery aircraft and those that have newly arrived in the front zone;

-- to define precisely the disposition areas, status, and nature of actions of the Brown 1st, 4th, and 6th army corps and the Blue 1st Army

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Corps. Special attention will be given to detecting the disposition areas of the operational reserves of the Northern Army Group: the Lilac 1st and 2nd army corps, Brown 5th Army Corps, Violet 2nd Army Corps, Blue 2nd Army Corps, Green 4th Mechanized Division, and Blue 3rd Infantry Division;

-- to determine the nature of the engineer preparation of defense lines along the LEINE, WESER, EMS, IJSSEL, and RHINE rivers, and the KIEL Canal.

3. The primary efforts of front reconnaissance forces and means will be concentrated on the HANNOVER-BRUSSELS axis.

b) On protection against weapons of mass destruction:

1. The primary efforts of protection will be concentrated on supporting the deployment of the main grouping of troops in the areas of: GREVESMUHLEN, HAGENOW, WAHREN, ROSTOCK; PERLEBERG, MAGDEBURG, FURSTENWALDE, PRENZLAU, and their transition to the offensive; when overcoming the zones of nuclear minefields, when making the assault crossing of the RHINE River, and when the 6th Army and 10th Tank Army move forward and are committed to battle.

2. By 2000 hours 6 September, a system for the collection, processing, and distribution of information about nuclear strikes and the employment of chemical and biological weapons by the enemy will be organized. The separate special monitoring battalions of the armies and the front will be called upon to determine the coordinates and parameters of the nuclear bursts. Provision will be made that the depths of the zones within which the parameters of nuclear bursts are determined are as follows: from the state border up to a depth of 30 km and in zones of the Combined Baltic Fleet and the Western Front to a depth of no less than 30 km. The rear boundary for the first-echelon armies will be ROSTOCK, WITTSTOCK, WITTENBERG.

Before the front troops make the transition to the offensive, front forces and means will conduct aerial radiation reconnaissance east of the ROSTOCK, PERLEBERG, BELZIG line; during the offensive, reconnaissance will update the front boundary every two days. Special attention during the organization of radiation and chemical reconnaissance will be focused on the areas of: GOLDBERG, PARCHIM, PERLEBERG, MIROW, (excluding) MALCHIN; WITTSTOCK, WUSTERHAUSEN, CIEDIENIK, (excluding) NEUSTRELITZ; TANGERMUNDE, BELZIG, BELITZ, VELTEN.

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The forces and means of biological reconnaissance will be concentrated on epidemiological and epizootic monitoring in the rear zone of the front.

3. Engineer preparation of the departure areas for the offensive for the armies, front large units and facilities, and air army basing areas will be completed by the close of 7 September.

4. The measures to eliminate the aftereffects of the enemy's use of weapons of mass destruction against front installations will be accomplished as follows:

-- by the close of 6 September, five groups of officer reconnaissance on helicopters will be readied from personnel of the front field headquarters, and in the armies not less than two groups /will be readied/;

-- by 2000 hours 7 September, composite detachments for elimination of the aftereffects (SOLP) of the enemy's use of weapons of mass destruction will be established: three in the front, two in each army and corps, one in each division and regiment; and special training sessions will be conducted with them. The personnel of the front SOLP will be from the 13th Motorized Rifle Division and 20th Tank Division, the reserves of engineer and chemical troops, and the rear units of the front;

-- engineer troops will be made ready and used to reconnoiter areas of destruction and fires and to clear movement and maneuvering routes; chemical troops will be used for radiation and chemical reconnaissance and for special decontamination treatment; medical facilities /will be used/ for biological reconnaissance, medical and evacuation measures in the centers of mass destruction from nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons primarily in support of the 2nd and 3rd front missile brigades, 13th and 15th surface-to-air missile brigades, 2nd and 3rd front mobile missile technical bases, 18th and 19th front surface-to-air missile technical bases, 13th Motorized Rifle Division, 20th Tank Division, and front control posts.

5. Before 7 September, a reserve of protective means will be established: for four days in the armies and the /one/ corps and for eight days in front depots.

6. Before 2000 hours 7 September, matters of cooperation will be worked out with front troops and civil defense organs of the Polish People's Republic and German Democratic Republic concerning defense against weapons of mass destruction during the move forward, especially along the ODER and ELBE river lines.

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7. By the close of 7 September, materiel not under shelter will be dispersed from stationary depots.

8. Before 7 September, all front forces personnel not previously immunized will be vaccinated.

9. By the close of 7 September, fire fighting measures in areas occupied by the troops will be completed.

10. Jamming of the enemy's optoelectronic reconnaissance and weapons-laying means by the use of aerosols will be provided for to afford protection to the troops during deployment of the main grouping of front troops and its transition to the offensive, during the assault crossing of the RHINE River, and during the advance and commitment to battle of the 6th Army and 10th Tank Army.

11. Effective 2300 hours 1 September, the following signals will be established:

- PLAMYA-4444 /Flame-4444/ for warning of immediate threat of the enemy's use of nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons;
- TUMAN-1575 /Fog-1575/ for warning of radiation, chemical, and biological contamination.

c) On engineer support

1. In the departure area of the front during the period from 1 September through 7 September, the following will be prepared from the engineer standpoint:

- positions for the covering troops 2 to 5 km from the state border;
- departure areas for the offensive for the first-echelon divisions;
- disposition areas for the 2nd Army Corps and the 6th Army;
- siting areas for rocket and surface-to-air missile troops;
- disposition (concentration) areas for large units and units of the second echelons of the armies, the front reserves, and the rear services units and facilities of the front;
- front control posts.

On the axes of the enemy's probable invasion, the departure areas for the first-echelon divisions will be prepared from the engineer standpoint with a view to the possibility of having to repulse his invasion.

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To protect the troops against injury in the departure areas and disposition areas, shelters will be prepared: open and overhead covered slit trenches for each squad, team, and crew; dugouts for /each/ platoon and strong shelters for each company, and covered positions for 70 percent of the equipment. As decided by the commanders of the armies, covering troops at full strength and one motorized rifle (tank) regiment each from the 4th, 14th, 18th, and 23rd motorized rifle divisions will move out to accomplish the work of the engineer preparation of the departure areas for the offensive and the disposition (concentration) areas. Full-strength engineer units of the divisions, the armies, and the front will be allocated to complete the work. Engineer preparation will be carried out with strict observance of camouflage measures.

The front staff, together with the chief of engineer troops, will organize the monitoring of the departure of troops for engineer preparation and the progress of the work completion.

2. In the departure area at least eight front routes (two to three in each army zone) will be prepared and maintained. During the operation five front routes and /tactical/ routes for the maneuvering of rocket troops and reserves will be prepared and maintained for the move forward of the 6th Army and 10th Tank Army to the line of commitment to battle. Pontoon and engineer bridgebuilding units of the front and of the first-echelon armies will be allocated to prepare and maintain the crossings over the ELBE and HAVEL rivers.

3. To support the repulse of a possible enemy invasion, engineer obstacles will be prepared on the tank-accessible approaches in the border zone from the state border to the departure areas for the first-echelon divisions with a density of: 0.7 on the HAMBURG, HAGENOW axis; 0.8 on the UELZEN, STENDAL and BRAUNSCHWEIG, MAGDEBURG axes; 0.2 to 0.3 on the remaining axes. Obstacle complexes will be prepared in the depth.

4. For reconnaissance, capture, and destruction of the enemy's nuclear minefields, two to three small groups will be established in the divisions and they will be provided with all the necessary means to accomplish these jobs.

5. During the preparation of dummy installations antiradar camouflage measures will be carried out.

6. Provisions will be made to reinforce the 6th Army and 10th Tank Army with not less than one pontoon bridge regiment each as they are

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committed to battle in order to support the assault crossing from the march of the RHINE and IJSSEL rivers.

7. Engineer preparation of the departure areas for front troops will be in readiness by the close of 7 September.

8. The plan for engineer support of the operation will be reported for approval on 2 September.

d) On operational camouflage

The objective of operational camouflage will be, before combat actions begin -- to conceal from the enemy the preparation of the front offensive operation; and during the operation -- to conceal the axis of the main attack.

The concept for operational camouflage, by intensive engineer preparation of the departure area for covering units and the conduct of measures to counteract radioelectronic reconnaissance, will be:

- to show the enemy the preparation of front troops for defensive actions from the forward edge of defense right up to the border;
- to conceal from the enemy the real grouping of troops in the departure area and show the dummy /grouping/;
- at the start of and during the operation, by the simulated move forward of the front second echelon south of the WOLFSBURG, HANNOVER line, to conceal the ACTUAL axis of the main attack and the commitment to battle of the second echelon.

The main tasks of operational camouflage will be:

1. Before combat actions begin:

- to deceive the enemy relative to bringing troops to increased and full combat readiness, to carrying out engineer preparation of the departure areas for the offensive, and to carrying out their occupation;
- to disorient the enemy concerning the true disposition of troops and basing of front aviation in the departure position for the offensive;
- to show a dummy composition and positioning of the elements of the operational disposition;
- to prepare before 7 September dummy siting areas for three missile brigades, two dummy airfield complexes, and also one dummy control post for the front and for each army in which combat activity will be simulated upon

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the declaration of a combat alert;

-- to conceal from the enemy the preparation for delivery of the initial nuclear strike and the system for control of front troops.

2. When fulfilling the immediate task of the front:

-- to conceal the axis of the front's main attack, and the move forward and commitment to battle of the second-echelon armies;

-- to disorient the enemy concerning the basing of aviation and disposition of the rocket troop siting areas;

-- to show to the enemy a simulated disposition of the front second echelon and reserves;

-- to conceal from the enemy the positioning and relocation of the front control posts.

The relocation of rocket troops will be done only in the hours of darkness over previously prepared routes and with the necessary security.

The front staff will work out the operational camouflage plan, calculate the necessary forces and means to fulfill the given tasks, issue instructions to the troops, and organize the monitoring of the execution of the operational camouflage measures. The operational camouflage plan will be reported for approval together with the plan for the offensive operation.

e) On radioelectronic warfare

The main efforts of radioelectronic warfare in the operation will be concentrated on the CELLE, BRUSSELS axis in the offensive zone of the 7th and 9th armies and in support of the combat actions of the 1st Air Army for the purpose of: disrupting the radio control of the main groupings of the Northern Army Group and the aviation of the 2nd Allied Tactical Air Force; lowering the effectiveness of radar reconnaissance and aimed strikes against front troops and installations; disorganizing the radio-implemented cooperation of the large units and units of the Northern Army Group and 2nd Allied Tactical Air Force; ensuring firm control of front troops and weapons under conditions of enemy jamming and strikes with homing weapons.

1. Radioelectronic neutralization.

When the operation is conducted without the employment of nuclear weapons, the 12th OSNAZ-N /⁵⁰¹⁴⁸ ~~ground radio intercept~~/ Battalion and the 11th Separate Electronic Countermeasures Helicopter Squadron will be directed to

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accomplish the tasks of disrupting the radio control of the troops of the Brown 1st, 4th, and 6th army corps, the Blue 1st Army Corps, the 3rd Long-Range Aviation Regiment /sic/ of the Brown Air Tactical Command, and the Blue air forces, and also /disrupting/ their aimed use of their weapons.

When the operation is conducted employing nuclear weapons, the 12th OSNAZ-N Battalion and the 11th Separate Electronic Countermeasures Helicopter Squadron will be employed to disrupt the control of the nuclear weapons units of the Northern Army Group, the 2nd Allied Tactical Air Force, the Brown 1st, 4th, and 6th army corps, and of the Blue 1st Army Corps; the control of the Brown 1st and 6th army corps; and the control and warning for the centers and posts of the 1st and 2nd OPS PVO /?separate air defense signal regiments/.

On the LUBECK, FLENSBURG axis, part of the forces and means of the 12th OSNAZ-N Battalion and the 11th Separate Electronic Countermeasures Helicopter Squadron will be employed in the 4th Army's offensive zone.

The forces and means of the 62nd OSNAZ-S /aircraft radio intercept/ Battalion and the 1st OSNAZ-S Battalion of the air army will lower the effectiveness of the enemy's airborne radar reconnaissance and aimed air strikes while covering the front command post, the 2nd and 3rd front missile brigades, the main airfields of the 1st Air Army, and the troops at the crossing of the ELBE, HAVEL, WESER, RHINE, and IJSEL rivers.

Massive jamming by all radioelectronic countermeasures units of the front will be provided for the purpose of supporting the repulse of an enemy ground and air invasion, the delivery of the initial nuclear strike of the front, the conduct of the air operation, the breakthrough of West's forward line of defense, the assault landings, and the commitment to battle of the second echelon.

2. Radioelectronic defense.

All front troops will contribute to the concealment of the preparations for the front offensive operation by carrying out measures of radio and radiotechnical camouflage in conjunction with other measures to counteract West's technical means of reconnaissance.

To ensure stable control over troops and weapons, the chief of staff and the chiefs of staff of the armies, together with the chiefs of the branch arms, will organize and carry out the necessary organizational and

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technical measures to defend radioelectronic means against radio jamming and strikes by the enemy's homing weapons and also against mutual interference.

3. The radioelectronic warfare plan and the sections on radioelectronic defense of the plans for the employment of branch arms will be reported for approval by 1000 hours 2 September.

f) On rear services support

1. The main efforts of the front rear services will concentrate on supporting the troops advancing on the CELLE, BRUSSELS axis. A branch of the rear front base and part of the medical and repair facilities will be allocated to support the troops on the JUTLAND axis.

2. By the start of the operation, the following reserves of materiel will be established:

-- in the armies and the corps: ammunition (units of fire): 1.15 small arms; 2.2 artillery, mortar and rocket (including 0.4 unit of fire set aside for the artillery preparatory fire); 2.65 tank, 2.5 antiaircraft; fuel (fuelings): 2.3 gasoline; 3.5 diesel fuel;

-- in the forward front bases: three days' reserves for the troops to be supported.

By the end of the operation, the reserves in the line units and in mobile army bases will be held at established norms; at the forward front bases -- for two to three days for the troops to be supported.

3. The expenditure of materiel will be established as follows:

-- during preparation for the operation and to fulfill the immediate task of the front: ammunition (units of fire): 1.6 small arms; 5.0 artillery, mortar, and rocket; 4.0 tank; 5.0 antiaircraft; 9.1 aviation; fuel (fuelings): 1.6 gasoline; 2.6 diesel fuel; 9.1 aviation fuel.

The expenditure of materiel by the armies and the corps will be in conformity with approved calculations:

-- to fulfill the front follow-up task: ammunition (units of fire): 0.8 small arms, 2.5 artillery, mortar, and rocket; 2.5 tank; 3.5 antiaircraft; 5.6 aviation; fuel (fuelings): 1.3 gasoline; 1.9 diesel fuel; 5.6 aviation fuel.

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4. Two regiments of the 26th Military Transport Air Division will be used to deliver materiel to the troops in action in the operational depth, and also to evacuate wounded and sick.

5. The rear services will be ready on 7 September.

6. As of 0500 hours 7 September, the rear control post of the front will be located in a forest 6 km south of FURSTENBERG.

5. Assessment of the results of the lesson -- 10 to 15 minutes.

The lesson director will state the subject, the training objectives, and how these objectives were met.

He will rate the reports and note the positive aspects and deficiencies of the students in their preparation for the lesson.

He will discuss the content of the decisions and of the explanatory memoranda for them which were worked out by the students.

He will cite examples from the experience of the Great Patriotic War and postwar exercises on decision-making by front commanders.

He will determine the time periods and procedure for the students to correct poorly assimilated topics.

Reference Material

Examples of decision-making by a front commander based on the experience of the Great Patriotic War.

1. When he was front commander, Marshal of the Soviet Union K.K. ROKOSOVSKIY, when he was engaged in making a decision for an operation, would first personally study the situation in the forthcoming zone of actions and the capabilities of the front in conformity with assigned tasks and would coordinate matters of cooperation with the adjacent fronts.

At this time, the front staff and the principal chiefs of the branch arms and services would prepare the necessary calculations for the commander's decision-making on the operation. In doing so, great attention was devoted to the study of the terrain and the nature of the enemy's defense.

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Then the tasks for the troops in the operation were worked out together with the commanders of the armies and the respective chiefs of branch arms and services.

The members of the Military Council took an active part in planning the operation.

In the book A Soldier's Duty, page 246, Marshal of the Soviet Union K.K. ROKOSOVSKIY, touching upon the preparation of an offensive operation, wrote: "This system of preparing for an operation was strictly adhered to by us, if time permitted, of course."

2. When considerable time was available to prepare a front offensive operation, the General Staff would brief the front command beforehand about the forthcoming task and ask for its views on the conduct of the operation.

In this case, the front command would determine the objectives and concept of the offensive operation, estimate the situation, outline the axis of the main and other attacks, determine the necessary composition of forces and means, and determine the tasks of the troops.

In this case, the preparation of views on the operation, as a rule, would be accomplished in parallel at the General Headquarters of the Supreme High Command and at the front headquarters. The General Staff would take into account the views of the fronts when working out the decision of the Supreme High Command and when preparing the operational directive for the front.

Thus were prepared the major operations of the Great Patriotic War -- the Belorussian, Vistula-Oder, and others.

Apropos of this, Marshal of the Soviet Union G.K. ZHUKOV wrote in his memoirs: "Since ... in the preparation of major operations the development of a plan would proceed in parallel in the General Staff and in the staffs of the fronts, and the front commands, the General Staff, and a deputy of the Supreme Commander-in-Chief maintained close contact with each other, the draft plans of the fronts would fully conform to the concepts of the General Headquarters."

3. The decision on an operation was usually worked out during the study of the situation and by the creative work of the front commander, chief of staff, and group of generals and officers of the field headquarters of the front and armies. In decision-making, the enemy's

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forces and his possible means of counteraction using the entire arsenal of weapons and tactical and operational procedures were taken into consideration.

In the assessment of the enemy, we were guided by the Leninist principles: 'The most dangerous thing is to underestimate the enemy. This is most dangerous, since it can lead to defeat in war.'*

4. The experience of the Great Patriotic War shows that the situational conditions under which the decision for an operation was made varied greatly and that time was extremely limited -- from two to three days down to no more than a few hours.

That is why commanders most often made a preliminary decision on a map and then defined it more precisely on the terrain during the commander's reconnaissance. The terrain on the axis of the main attack and of the other attacks to be delivered by front troops was studied with special thoroughness.

When sufficient time was available for the preparation of the operation, as a rule the decision was made by the front commander on the terrain during the commander's reconnaissance; it was then worked out in final form on a map to the entire depth of the assigned task and updated during the organization of cooperation.

* V.I. LENIN. Collection of Complete Works, Volume 41, page /illegible -- ?14/.

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