

Information Support: Part and Parcel of Military Policy of a State

Hvozd Victor

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Hvozď Victor[†]

Abstract

The article gives the points of view on the role and place of information support in formation and implementation of the military policy of a state.

Key Words: *information security, information support, information war, military policy military security, security and defense sphere, security environment, threats, Ukraine*

Problem statement in general. The complex military-political situation, attempts of certain forces to destroy the unity of the democratic world, the destruction of the foundations of international security and international law, with the possibility of unpunished use of force in the international arena, brings absolutely new for many countries external conditions for ensuring national security.

Changes in the security environment, as well as new threats and displacement of the world's poles of force, require radical revision, or rather — creation of a completely new system for ensuring both national security and its integral component — military security.

At this, it should be noted that recently the importance of the information factor in resolving global problems of geopolitics keeps growing, a state's information

[†] Ph. D. in Military Sciences

infrastructure is becoming critical for national and military security, information is turning into the mankind's strategic resource, and the struggle for information is intensifying. The dependence of social management systems, including military policy, on the functioning of information systems and technologies, intensifies the problems of information security of the life of an individual, society and a state, information weapons appear and strategies of information wars are being developed.

Statement of basic materials. To fulfill the vital task of a state — to protect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the country, are being created forces, means and bodies capable of joint efforts to accomplish this task, their work, united by common goals, tasks and methods of implementation being based on a single normative legal basis and general principles ensuring national security being carried out in a single strategic management style.

The combination of these forces, means and bodies creates *a system for ensuring military security of a state* [1]–[3]. It is the most important and the only state mechanism designed to implement the country's conceptual views and doctrinal provisions in the sphere of military security. This task is fulfilled through the coordination of the work of the executive and legislative authorities, local self-government bodies, public associations, and individual citizens in accordance with the current legislation.

The main role of the system for ensuring military security in the structures of state power and management lies in this system's strict combining national interests, values and goals of a state with its political course, various types of threats of a military nature, as well as forms and methods of their implementation mainly by military-political and military methods.

At the same time, of special importance in supporting military security is the process of preparing and adopting forward-looking decisions to protect national

interests.

Since any decision-making (especially in the sphere of national security) is based on information, the general level of the national security depends on a state of information support to military security subjects.

In our opinion, the information support to military security subjects is a complex of measures for the search, collection, accumulation, analysis and providing authorized state bodies with information needed for security work, assessment of a state of military security and the level of military threats, prevention of unwanted (dangerous) situations and decision-making in the sphere of defense of a state's military security.

Information support is provided by the relevant system — *a system of information support to military security subjects of a state*, which is a set of authorized government bodies, subunits of ministries and departments, non-state institutions (with information and analytical capabilities), with functions established by regulatory acts, on direct execution measures for the search, collection, analysis, processing, accumulation and provision of information to state bodies authorized to conduct state policy in the sphere of military security.

In general, information support means providing relevant information to support activities in the sphere of military security of a state.

Now we can distinguish two main points of view on information support [4]–[5].

According to the first, information support is mainly providing necessary information to the subjects of the military policy, which in the long run allows to adequately use military force. Obviously, in this case, the information flows have a definite orientation — to the subjects of military policy.

The second view suggests that information support first of all is aimed at creating necessary conditions, a favorable information environment for the activities of

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military policy subjects, and the implementation of military-political decisions. Such work is done to a greater extent by disseminating appropriately selected and prepared information among the citizens of a state, the personnel of its armed forces, the world community and other reference groups.

In our opinion, these two points of view cannot be separated, given that they are in fact too closely interrelated functions of information support for the implementation of military policies aimed at ensuring military security of a state.

In determining the aim of information support it is appropriate to proceed from the fact that it should be considered as an activity aimed at providing other activities, in this case — military policy. Therefore, improving the effectiveness of military policy serves as a goal of information support.

To achieve the goal of information support, its subjects need to fulfill a number of tasks.

The first task is the **informational** (reference) task, which is the main one, since consumers need information about military-political phenomena and processes that are actually taking place and a description of them in a generalized form.

The **explanatory** task means that the information support is intended not only to inform and describe the military-political processes and phenomena, but also to some extent to contribute to the explanation of the complex causal relationships, the main trends in military policy, to indicate the direction of its development.

The **heuristic** task is to acquire new knowledge that broadens the perceptions of the problems of military policy.

The **prognostic** task reflects the diagnostic potential of information support and is to identify and forecast trends in military-political processes, development of military policy objects. Resolving this problem insures a proactive influence on the objects of military policy, military-political processes and phenomena.

The process of determining the limits and conditions for the use of means of

armed violence of a state implies the interaction between the subjects of military policy. Therefore, the transfer of information, the agreement between military-political players serves as a **communicative** task of information support. At this, are getting stronger social relations between all elements of the political system of a state, which have an impact on military policy.

The **regulatory** task is manifested in the information support through the provision of objective and exhaustive information about a phenomenon or process of military-political reality contributing to the removal of the tension arising in the relations between subjects of information activity caused by inadequate or unequal distribution of knowledge.

The **subjects** of information support include all persons, all bodies, subunits, structures that directly or indirectly carry out information activities in the sphere of military policy of a state. Conditionally the subjects of information support can be divided into two main groups. The first group should include the actual subjects of the military policy, which can act as sources of information, while being its intense consumers, and it is they that are responsible for decision-making on military security issues.

The second group is formed by special information and analytical structures supplying information both to subjects of military policy and to that part of the objective social reality that is the object of military policy. The structure of this group is extremely complex. It includes intelligence, information-analytical, advisory and expert structures that may be directly related to the subjects of the military policy, state news agencies and press-service of the subjects of military policy, research institutions and mass media [6].

Conclusions. So, the system of information support to military security subjects is an important element of the military security system, which contributes to the formation and implementation of a state's military policy. Improving the

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effectiveness of military policy and, accordingly, the level of military security of a state is the goal of information support. That is why the result of the information support can be the degree of satisfaction of the information needs of the objects of information support (first of all of the subjects of military policy) and their intensive information interaction with the social environment both inside the country and on the international arena, which will increase the effectiveness of the military policy.

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About author:

Victor Hvozd — President of the Independent Analytical Center for Geopolitical Studies “Borysfen Intel” (Kyiv, Ukraine).

He graduated from Kyiv High Combined Arms Commanding College, the Faculty of Law of State University of Lviv, received a Master's Degree at Kyiv University of Economics and Law, graduated from the Military Diplomatic Academy and also attended a postgraduate course at John Kennedy's School of State Management, Harvard University (USA).

Since 1981 — served in command and staff positions in the military intelligence system. From 1993 to 1995 — took part in the UN Peacekeeping Operations at the territory of former Yugoslavia. From 1996 to 1999 — the Defence Attaché of Ukraine to Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina. From 2000 to 2003 — the Representative of Ukraine's Ministry of Defence at the Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the UN in New York, Member of Ukraine's delegation in the UN Security Council. From January 2008 to August 2010 — Chief of Ukraine's Defence Intelligence of the Ministry of Defence of Ukraine. In February 2014 — April 2016 — Chairman of the Foreign Intelligence Service of Ukraine, Member of the National Security and Defence Council of Ukraine.

Lieutenant General (of the Reserve), Ph.D. in Military Science, Professor of

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National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy. Author of numerous books and publications on national security, international relations and geopolitics.