

Lieutenant Colonel Endre Szűcs

The authorial review of the PhD dissertation entitled

**The urban fight training of light infantry officer and non-commissioned
officer trainees taking into considerations
NATO principles and the challenges of the 21st century**

DEFINING THE SCIENTIFIC MATTER

After the change of regime, as a consequence of the gradual reform of the mass military, the full NATO membership of our country and the transformation of the military forces, recently there is no conscript service in the Hungarian Defence Forces (HDF). Today our soldiers carry out their tasks based upon voluntary service. The change to voluntary defence forces is a part of the formation of 21st century defence forces. For the sake of our membership in the Alliance and the correspondence to the challenges in security policy of the 21st century, the qualification, training and preparation system of the Hungarian Defence Forces is also undergoing changes. The changes are implemented so that the Hungarian soldier could smoothly cooperate with the military personnel of the other defence forces within the Alliance.

The changed environment in security policy has its effects on military thinking. Military scientists are studying and analysing the evolved situation. Among the dangers of the new environment in security policy terrorism is a significant one. The fight against terrorism is completely different that of the fight hypothesised in the period of the cold war. Terrorism appears primarily in settlements (cities and villages). The defence forces must be trained and prepared for counterterrorist activities. The theory and practice of preparation and training has been under development in our days. The military activities still in progress in Iraq and Afghanistan are parts of the fight against terrorism. The most suitable military forces for counterterrorism are the arms of land forces. Among the arms and specialist forces of the land forces that are the most appropriate for deployment against terrorist attacks are the light infantry and reconnaissance forces. The basic tasks of infantry and reconnaissance units answer the demands of counterterrorist activities and also are best supported by their gear and equipment.

In this situation I reckon that the improvement of qualification and training of light infantry officer and NCO trainees should also include the modernization of preparation for urban fight. The training for urban fight is important because on Earth, the territory and population of settlements (cities, towns, villages, etc.) are growing continuously and thus grows the possibility of military activities on their territories.

In my opinion the urban fight training presently conducted is not efficient to the necessary extent and this is the reason why I have chosen this area for my research topic.

The research of the conditions, the methods of conduction and the equipments and means of urban fight; the testing of research results are carried out intensively in more advanced allied forces present days as well. The newest results are continuously being presented at the meetings of the Urban Fight Working Group of the NATO Training Group. Hungary is a member of this working group thus we are also familiar with these results.

The direct implementation of methods and combat proceedings developed on the basis of the new findings is not an option for us because of the specific conditions of the HDF (technical equipment, national traditions, specific tasks) which in numerous areas differ from those of other allied countries.

I have carried out my research and have written my dissertation in the interest of the importance, the necessity of change and modernization of light infantry officer and NCO trainees' urban fight training.

RESEARCH AIMS

1. *Presentation and examination* of the evolution and main stops in the development of urban fight through the military historical events of the last century thus proving the necessity of training for urban fight.
2. Military-geographical evaluation of the Republic of Hungary by way of *examination and analysis* of population and administrative relations to support the significance of urban fight training.
3. Presentation and examination of the urban fight training system and its content of the United States of America, the United Kingdom, Germany and the Hungarian Police Forces while *exploring* those elements and instruments that can be adopted for HDF.
4. *Analysis* of the status of light infantry officer and NCO urban fight training.
5. *Drawing up a proposal* for necessary changes for the modernization of light infantry officer and NCO urban fight training.

RESEARCH METHODS

In course of the research and elaboration of my research theme, among the general research methods I have employed induction, deduction, analysis, synthesis, comparison and observation, among the specific examination methods of military science I have applied the historical method. I have checked some of my theoretical research results at experimental training sessions, and I have used as a source of the who participated in the training sessions and exercises. In order to achieve the research aims, I have studied international and national literature about the tasks, subject matter and methods of light infantry officer and NCO urban fight training, the newest results and experiences and conclusions drawn from inland and international exercises.

I have publicized sub-results of my research in publications in different types of specific military-related written media, contributions at scientific conferences, studies and tenders.

Within the frame of continuous consultations I have compared my sub-results gained during research with opinions of specialists and carried out necessary refinements.

Besides continuous publication of my sub-results, as a member of the "Sharpshooter" research team, I participated in experimental training sessions in 2001 with participants from among the students of the Operational-Tactics Department of the Military Science Branch at Miklós Zrínyi National Defence University conducted by LtCol (police) Lajos Nebehaj, specialist of the Anti-Terrorist Service of the Fast-Reaction Police Force of the Ministry of the Interior. The research team had continued its activities in 2002 and 2003. The results gained by the research team have been presented to the Urban Fight Working Group of the NATO Training Group in the autumn of 2003.

I participated in the joint exercise of HDF 1. Light Mixed Regiment and the British Lancastrian and Cumbrian Volunteers (Territorial Army) in Újdörögd between 08–16 October 2002 where I have studied the methods of urban fight training of the two countries.

I participated in a Peace Support Doctrinal and Training Seminar between 29 June - 05 July 2003 in Great Britain where I was given the opportunity to try modern shooting instructional equipment.

THE BRIEF CHAPTER-TO-CHAPTER DESCRIPTION OF THE RESEARCH CARRIED OUT

In *the first chapter*, I am examining and analysing the evolution and development of urban fight and its evolving factors based upon the military historical events of the last century.

At the end of the chapter I am summarizing my research findings and making proposals about the training.

In *the second chapter*, I am examining and analysing in detail two of the social factors of military geographical characteristics: population and settlements.

I am closing the chapter with a conclusion stating that inclusion of military geographical knowledge in urban fight training is of importance.

In *the third chapter*, I am introducing the urban fight training of leading members of the Alliance and the Police with the purpose of presenting modern urban fight and its system of conditions. I am examining the present day status of Hungarian light infantry officer and NCO urban fight training.

I am summing up the results of presentation and research that can serve as a basis for the modernization and transformation of our urban fight training.

In *the fourth chapter*, I am stating those changes that can support the Hungarian officer and NCO training system in reaching modernity.

I am *closing my dissertation by summarizing* the results of the research and stating the places where the material and its findings can be applied.

Due to regulations regarding the length of PhD dissertations, I am not dealing with the urban fight training of contracted light infantry personnel because in my opinion the new system of their training started in the previous years provides modernity.

I finished assembling my dissertation in December of 2004 but the research has not been closed because I wish continue my further researches by studying present day events of the 21st century.

SUMMARIZED CONCLUSIONS

With the end of the bipolar world and the decrease of the threat of traditional wars to a minimum, a transformation process has started in the defence forces of the world, but mainly within the defence forces of the European countries which aims the shaping of defence forces that are cost-efficient, small-in-numbers, modern and fast-reacting to the challenges of the globalised world.

In my thesis I have **presented** via military historical examples the characteristics which affect urban fight training and **examined** the development of urban fight. I have **unfolded** the necessity of employment of the military historical events which can be found in regulations followed in other states' defence forces in the urban fight training.

I have **stated** and **supported** the necessity of urban fight training by way of military geographical analysis of our country.

I am providing a sample of modern urban fight training by the **analysis** of urban fight training of the leading countries of the Alliance and the Police. Based on the analysis, with

consideration of our possibilities, those principles, proceedings and instruments can be chosen that can be introduced in light infantry officer and NCO training.

My research results also prove that the first steps in the modernization process of urban fight training of light infantry officer and NCO trainees are the modernization of the subject matter of the curriculum and the increase of the training time and then the development of the conditions of practical training. The procurement of equipments necessary for the development cannot be omitted either because it is a factor vital for modern training.

I know that the modernization of the urban fight training of light infantry officer and NCO trainees will be carried out with the execution of proposed alterations and the realization of innovations. On the basis of data, analysis and conclusions stated in my dissertation

PROPOSALS AND THE PRACTICAL USABILITY OF RESEARCH RESULTS are as follows:

1. The processed military historical events can be included in the new urban fight regulations as examples and can as well be taught in urban fight training.
2. The military geographical evaluation can be utilized during commanders' and staff's exercise as a database.
3. The transformation of training provides a pattern for other arms and specialist forces to modernize their urban fight training.
4. The proposed training equipments allow the realization of modern training of other combat activities.

LIST OF PUBLICATIONS WITHIN THE FIELD

1. Óváry László, Szűcs Endre: Helység-harc-kiképzés helyzete. Nemzetvédelmi Egyetemi Közlemények 5. évfolyam 1. szám. Zrínyi Miklós Nemzetvédelmi Egyetem, 2001, 178-190. o. (The status of urban fight training.)
2. Szűcs Endre: A helység-harc-kiképzés jelene és jövője. Nemzetvédelmi Egyetemi Doktorandorum 1. szám. Zrínyi Miklós Nemzetvédelmi Egyetem, 2001, 145-154. o. (The present and future of urban fight training.)
3. Óváry László, Szűcs Endre: Helység-harc-kiképzés helyzete II. Nemzetvédelmi Egyetemi Közlemények 6. évfolyam 2. szám. Zrínyi Miklós Nemzetvédelmi Egyetem, 2002. 108-121 o. (The status of urban fight training II.)
4. Óváry László, Szűcs Endre: A szerződéses gépesített lövészkatonák egyéni kiképzésének modell változata, Új Honvédségi Szemle 2002. évi 5. szám. 69-76. o. (The model version of personal training of contracted mechanized infantrymen.)
5. Szűcs Endre: Helység-harc a XXI. században, Hadtudományi Tájékoztató 2001/7. szám, Robothadviselés című tudományos konferencia anyaga II. rész 126.-136. o. (Urban fight in the 21st century.)
6. Szűcs Endre: Kommunikáció a XXI. századi helység-harcban, A katonai kommunikációs rendszerek fejlődési irányai- kihívások és trendek a XXI. században, Nemzetközi szakmai tudományos konferencia anyaga, Zrínyi Miklós Nemzetvédelmi Egyetem, 2001, 273-279. o. (Communication in 21st century urban fight, The developmental directions of military communication systems; challenges and trends in the 21st century.)
7. Novák Gábor, Szűcs Endre: A mesterlövész. Doktoranduszi Konferencia. Zrínyi Miklós Nemzetvédelmi Egyetem, 2001, 323-330. o. (The sharpshooter.)

8. Interjú a Magyar Honvéd című folyóiratban, amely a 2002. május 31. XIII: évf. 22. számában „Városharc, helység-harc” címmel jelent meg. (Interview entitled „City fight, urban fight” in Magyar Honvéd (Hungarian Patriot) periodical.)

9. Szűcs Endre: Műszaki eszköz a helység-harc-kiképzésben. Kard és Toll, Válogatás a hadtudomány doktoranduszainak tanulmányaiból. HM OTF. Budapest, 2002/1. 56-59. o. (Technical equipment in urban fight training.)

10. Szűcs Endre, Novák Gábor: A helikopterek alkalmazásának lehetőségei helység-harcban. ZMNE Repülőműszaki Intézet, Repüléstudományi Közlemények. Különszám 2. 2002. 207-212. o. (The possibilities of deployment of helicopters in urban fight.)

11. Novák Gábor, Szűcs Endre, Nebehaj Lajos: Korszerű harcászati és lökiképzési rendszerek. ZMNE BJKMFK Bolyai Szemle Különszám I. kötet, Budapest, 2002., 192-207. o. (Modern systems of tactical and shooting instruction.)

12. Szűcs Endre, Óváry László: A gépesített lövésztisztek helység-harc-kiképzése. Kard és Toll, Válogatás a hadtudomány doktoranduszainak tanulmányaiból, HM OTF, Budapest, 2003/1, 21. – 31. o. (The urban fight training of mechanized infantry officers.)

PROFESSIONAL AND SCIENTIFIC CURRICULUM VITAE

Personal data:

Name and rank: Lieutenant Colonel Endre Szűcs

Time and place of birth: 01 December 1963, Eger

Address: 2651 Rétság, Széchenyi István street 13.

Workplace: Ministry of Defence, Human Policy Department, Education and Education-Organization

Education:

1. Military High and Boarding School, Eger, 1978-1982

Lajos Kossuth Military College, mechanized infantry officer basic training, Szentendre, 1982-1986

Miklós Zrínyi Military Academy, staff officer training, Budapest, 1993-1994

Miklós Zrínyi National Defence University, postgraduate university basic education, Budapest, 1996-1998

Qualifications:

- mechanized infantry officer
- joint qualification officer
- mechanical engineer
- mid-level software operator

Practical educational and training experience:

– sub-unit commander (company commander) 1987-1988 Rétság

– operational officer, operational senior officer (head of operational sub-branch), training senior officer 1988-1993 Rétság, 1994-1995 Rétság, Budapest 1996

– chief presenter, deputy head of branch (MZNDU Education-Organization Branch) 1998-2000 Budapest, 2000-2001 Budapest

– university assistant lecturer (MZNDU Operational-Tactics Department) 2002 Budapest

- senior officer, distinguished senior officer, (Ministry of Defence, Education and Science Department, Military Education Branch; Ministry of Defence, Human Policy Department, Education and Education-Organization 2002-2005, 2005 Budapest

Language proficiency:

- English language, "C" type intermediate level state language examination, 1998, MZNDU
- English language, STANAG 2.2.3.2., 2004, Great Britain (Beaconsfield)
- Russian language, "C" type basic level state language examination, 1986, LKMC
- German language, "B" type basic level state language examination, 1994, MZMA

Scientific public activities:

- I have been a member of the Military Science Association since 1996 and the presidential member of the Operational-Tactical Section since 01 April 2003.
- I had topped my classes since 01 October 2000.
- I had been a student member of the PhD Council since 2001.
- 2001 – 2002: I had been an editorial member of "Hallgatói Közlemények" (Students' Bulletin)
- I had participated in the organization and conduction of the Students' Contest (07-08 May 2002).
- As a member of the „Sharpshooter” research team, we had carried out our research activity and incorporated the findings in a study. The study has been handed over to Ministry of Defence, Education and Science Department, Science-Organization Branch.
- I participated in the joint exercise of the HDF 1. Light Mixed Regiment and the British Lancastrian and Cumbrian Volunteers (Territorial Army) in Újdörög (08–16 October 2002)
- From 2005, I am a representative of military education in. Other Professional Group Committee of the Ministry of Education (Committee number 19).

Budapest, ... August 2005

LtCol Endre SZÚCS