

**ZRÍNYI MIKLÓS NATIONAL DEFENCE UNIVERSITY  
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**THE PREPARATION AND OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES OF ALLIED  
AND HUNGARIAN MILITARY SECURITY FORCES AGAINST  
INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM**

**(PhD) study  
author's distinctive one**

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The Hungarian military participation started on 30 January 1996 when the Hungarian Engineer Contingent joined the NATO-led peacekeeping force, IFOR. Since then, we are continuously present at the theatres of the West-Balkans, Afghanistan and Iraq, however there is still no directive regulating or prescribing the actuality of the defense against terrorist activity at theatre and home soil as well. In the military and security concept of NATO and in other directives the preparation for security has been set, based on which NATO continuously adapts its system of security at the operations. As cooperation in exchange of information in security activity in NATO operations and the nations could not or could only with a great delay provide information on actual counter-terrorism information, it forced the security information collection activity (CI HUMINT) to be enhanced and tasked to collect defensive and offensive information that can prevent terrorist attacks, process and thus thwart terrorist plans.

That is the reason why NATO's national military security organizations gradually and continuously go beyond the borders, which has not been their practice before. They declared, that, although it's a national responsibility, the force protection is a decisive element in the training for the units participating in the war against terror. They also emphasized, that most of the anti-terrorism lectures are generic, and the soldiers' knowledge is often shallow. In the war against terror trainings concerning terrorism must be basic requisites. In the training of the military and security forces we must be aware of the fact that due to the increased security measures the terrorists increase the level of clandestine activity and employ new methods and ways and increased force against the allied forces to react.

ACCI and its subordinated units, responsible for security protection of NATO commands and operations, must be prepared to face and counter the threats, mainly the terrorist attacks, and its operational activity at theater is essential in order to increase efficiency. Military Security Office of the Republic of Hungary, providing security for national units participating in NATO missions, and the other national security services naturally have the same task, as the routine training and procedures<sup>1</sup> are not adequate in the changed circumstances. In my thesis I plan to uncover, analyze and draw conclusion of the theatre preparation and operational activity of NATO allied security forces and the Military Security Office. It is my goal to identify the problems the alliance security organization has to face, how it reacts to them and

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<sup>1</sup> National Security Strategy of the Republic of Hungary. (2073/2004.(III/31.) Government Decree. IV. „...The national security services must devote attention to participation in the fight against international terrorism, they are to develop and maintain new ways cooperation with the civilian and military services of the allied nations..”

how it adapted its structure according to the challenges and how the Military Security office did the same, as in the changed circumstances, alongside the armed forces, the security organizations must also be continuously made ready to work in international environment. The conscious learning on terrorism in this respect and the conclusions drawn from it and their integration in the counter-terrorist, terror detection and training work are still open questions, which mean a threat to our soldiers<sup>2</sup>. This threat must be articulated, uncovered and studied so that we understand its nature, characteristics, rules, and we become able to provide adequate response to avoid them, as “in our days there is no complete defense against terrorism, we are often helpless against acts of terrorism. According to the experts, one of the most important goals of preparation for fighting terrorism may be the countering of attacks and the perfection of prevention”.<sup>3</sup>

### 1. Research Goals

In choosing the topic I put forward the following goals:

- To prove that terrorism has several features beyond the general threat, that if ignored, endangers the personnel in missions and that give considerably more work to national allied security services. To analyze the constant changes of security, the threat and to summarize and define the methods used by the terrorists.
- To analyze the tasks of the Hungarian national security services and to study how the two military services could cooperate more efficiently in order to protect the national and the allied forces. To prove that the tasks of the Military Security Office of the Republic of Hungary in the military missions abroad multiplied following our accession to NATO and that the tasks of the MSO are in accordance with the security policy of NATO.
- To study the readiness and experiences of the MSO and to uncover the level of knowledge on terrorism of the protected personnel.
- To prove that in the fight against terrorism the adaptation of security forces to the threats is necessary and that in the fight against terrorism only with coordinated forces and mainly in allied security organizations training is more efficient, which results in more efficient work than in national confines.
- Furthermore, my goal is that by my thesis the military leadership can have a more in-depth knowledge of the territories that without the security forces form a considerable

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<sup>2</sup> National Security Strategy of the Republic of Hungary. (2073/2004.(III/31.) Government Decree. III.1.1. „... to ensure that the Hungarian armed forces are able to contribute to NATO and coalition operations in due time and duly trained...”

<sup>3</sup> Judit Bolgár – Nóra Szternák – György Szternák: The latest results of studies on terrorism.

security vacuum. With my thesis I wish to call attention to the responsible work of the security organizations in order to improve understanding and future cooperation. (I have to note that it will take longer time following the reading of the thesis.)

To achieve the goals listed above, I used my personal experiences of long years taking part in the allied security work. I also processed national and foreign literature on security policy. I studied the national and international literature on terrorism, terrorist organizations, terrorist methods and learned the latest research results. I consulted with national and foreign experts of the topic.

## 2. A SHORT DESCRIPTION OF THE RESEARCH DONE

I developed the topic in four chapters.

In the *first chapter* I analyzed the global terror threats, in which I have identified seven main threats. The survival of al-KAIDA and JIHAD following the retort of the 9/11 attacks, the terrorism in the world based on nationalism, the revitalization of extreme left and extreme right terrorism in Europe<sup>4</sup>, the spread of Palestinian terrorism, the closer collaboration of terrorist organizations and organized crime, and the proliferation of new terrorist methods or ones that previously characterized only certain groups. I introduced the tasks of security forces regarding terrorism and the challenges. In this respect I analyzed terrorism mainly between the 90's and 11 September then I drew certain conclusions that the terrorism constantly changes: certain organizations form connections and the methods of terrorism may appear anywhere in the world. I learnt that the security organizations had been almost always taken by surprise by the terror attacks and in spite of reacting quickly to the events, in their organizations they adapted to the challenges only slowly. I analyzed what kind of terror attacks we have to / may expect in the future and I evaluated the tasks of the security forces, the fields that need improved measures. I stated that the military forces, including the military security forces have to face almost all aspects of terrorism gradually, then almost in full scale at theatre, which provided new experiences day by day and demanded / demands increased requirements on the long term. In a way I summarized the measures that can decrease or prevent terror attacks.

In the *second chapter* I studied the characteristics and general aspects of terrorism from the military security point of view. In this respect I briefly touched the problem of defining terrorism and in a table I displayed the parts which are essential to set up a definition. I emphasized that in contrast of the previous definitions more and more

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<sup>4</sup> Which has been further proved by the EP elections of 7 June.

researchers include military targets among the targets. In the chapter I touched the terrorist ideology, the terrorist way of thinking, and called attention to certain views of terrorist profiling. I studied the terrorist roles within organizations. I introduced the role, connections and security aspects of terrorism and the time factor. From the security aspect one of the most important part of the chapter is the connection between society and terror organizations, the recruiting activity of terrorists. In this, according to my knowledge, I was the first to draw up the selection-recruitment process of the so-called western terrorist organizations, and I studied the recruitment work of the radical Islamic terrorist organizations. I analyzed the training procedures of the terror organizations and as another main area of the security field the intelligence collection to prevent terror attacks, and the terrorist information requirements regarding the military aspect. As the subtitle of the chapter I studied the methods and devices used by terrorists, part of which I have also set up definition for. In the definitions and methods I dealt in detail with terrorist hostage-taking, suicide attacks and attacks made with improvised explosive devices. I evaluated and analyzed the most important methods and the attacks made against military targets and processed the experiences of attacks made against NATO forces. I considered it important to include the connections between terrorism and organized crime, which pose a constant problem at almost all theatres of NATO, and even has effect on the security of some countries. I studied three main areas of terrorism and organized crime as of, drugs trafficking, the illegal trafficking of conventional weapons, and the collaboration in trafficking of nuclear material. Despite all three are serious problems, I highlighted the role of the organized crime in the trafficking of nuclear material and weapons of mass destruction. I concluded that the collaboration is so strong that for military security it would be desirable to cooperate more closely with international police forces even at theatres.

With all the above I drew the following conclusions: following the cold war the context of the world has dramatically changed, within NATO the former enemies started cooperation, many former members of the Warsaw Pact are now NATO members. Despite the positive changes in relations and cooperation, new security threats and challenges have risen, creating worsening security situation. At all fields the security is looking for new ways, there is a lack of experience, security is constantly changing according to changes in threat, in the fight against terrorism new, actual threats replace routine activity. Hungarian presence in military operations especially in Iraq and

Afghanistan permanently uphold the threat of daily acts of terrorism against Hungarian military units and Hungarian government missions.

The allied countries of NATO have recognized that the efficient fight against terrorism and the security structure of the world needs different military structure and system of leadership. The responses of the military have surely preceded the national security services, security organizations, the structures of which have not followed the changes in military quickly enough, thus their efficiency fell under the expectations. The restructuring of security services in order to adapt to changing security situation is inevitable equally at national and international level.

In the *third chapter* I analyzed the counter-terrorism tasks of the Hungarian national security services I introduced the tasks of the national security services based on the law, with highlighting the role of the Military Security Office following our accession to NATO. I analyzed that the law provides general authorization for the intelligence services (Information Office, Military Intelligence Office) to collect intelligence on foreign terror organizations, for the counter-intelligence services (National Security Office, Military Security Office) it prescribes the task to discover attempts and preparations to commit acts of terrorism, thus it emphasizes the priority and responsibility of the counter-intelligence services.

Of the above I concluded: In the fight against terrorism the national coordination is realized in theory and practice as well. The cooperation has both positive and negative experiences. The situation is somewhat different at theatre, in the information collection work against guerilla forces and terror organizations. Obviously the civilian national security services are not present at theatres of operation with considerable forces to be able to efficiently contribute to force protection of contingent. Effectively at theatres the two military national security services carry out their tasks based on the law in order to protect the Hungarian contingents. That is why I formed the suggestion to merge the two national security services by the modification of the national security act.

I define that the MSO from tactical work got into a sphere of strategic work environment. In the chapter I analyze the parallelism of the tasks of the MSO and the security policy of NATO and I prove that the tasks of the MSO include the security tasks of NATO as well. I proved that with the accession to NATO the tasks of the MSO incorporated permanent international tasks, in connection which the national security act, and the relevant government decree about the areas of responsibility must be modified.

In the chapter I evaluate part of MSO's training regarding the security protection of the Hungarian contingents and the experiences gained. By analyzing the experiences I studied the general preparedness of the HDF regarding counter-terrorism and with a representative survey I cleared the soldiers' opinion on this.

As a result of the survey I concluded that the solution is a training program based preparation, the need for which had been articulated.

Of the above I drew the conclusion that for the Hungarian Defense Forces a training program for defense against terrorism would provide a framework for training military personnel participating in homeland and foreign operations and for all other personnel who conduct official tasks at theatres.

I made a suggestion that the program should be complied by the military national security services whose basic tasks concern security issues as their attention is more focused on security and security threats.

In the fourth chapter I analyzed and evaluated those fields which initiated the restructuring of NATO security organizations. I evaluated with a detailed reasoning the importance of intelligence collection by operational agents and I processed former security experiences. I analyzed the Soviet experiences in Afghanistan and as a contrast the Israeli experiences in their combat against Palestinian terrorism. These experiences have been taken into consideration by NATO in planning the security operations. I concluded that in both cases the most successful operations were the ones where the security forces conducted complex agent operations. Following this, I analyzed the security situation of the allied multinational combat forces, the need to change this, the new system of training that has been introduced. In the sub-chapter I clearly verified that the possibilities, methods and content of security work in missions are different in zones of peace and of crisis and war. The environment of crisis areas is different and demand different methods and work procedures than traditional national security tasks.

I described the operational work of security organizations at theatre, which include all aspects of security work. Certain elements include the general experience gained at theatres. By the display and analysis of operational security work I proved that in the peacekeeping and crisis management operations of the North Atlantic Treaty efficient security work can only be achieved within allied framework.

With the practice of the displayed security work I made a Proposal for the force protection of our own units to be integrated into allied organization, as compared to that, national protection can only be provided at minimal level. It is also obvious that training security

officers in allied environment provides a wider experience which in long term an advantage for the service.

### 3. SUMMARY OF CONCLUSIONS

In the relevant chapters of the thesis I have conducted the analysis and evaluation of the designated research topics and drawn the conclusions. My summarized conclusions are the following:

1. I stated that the global terror threat has seven main threat factors in the present and future which are: the survival and strengthening of al-Kaida, nationalism-based terrorism, the re-emerging of extreme right- and left-wing terrorism in Europe, the proliferation of Palestinian terrorism, the closer collaboration between terrorism and organised crime, and the proliferation of new terrorist methods and methods formerly utilized by certain groups only. I uncovered that the al-KAIDA and the JIHAD movement got stronger following the response to 9/11.

I concluded that terrorism constantly changes: certain organizations form contacts and methods of terrorism can appear anywhere in the world. Concerning the security services, in my analysis I uncovered that to respond the new challenges they change their structure slowly. By analyzing the changes of threats I proved that the security organizations need to change in their structure and procedures.

2. By the general study of characteristics and aspects of terrorism I proved which elements are considered absolutely necessary for defining terrorism. I proved that on contrary to the former definitions, more and more researchers include military targets on the target list. From military security point of view I analyzed and formed a version of the recruitment process of the so-called western type terrorist organizations, and I analyzed the recruitment of the Islamic terror organizations. By the analysis I proved that the security organizations must pay special attention to the recruitment activity of terror organizations. By the analysis of training activity of terror organizations I verified that more time is needed for preparing our own forces in the combat against terrorism.

By the analysis of the preventive intelligence work I concluded that by adequate training and attention the terror attack are recognisable and thus may be prevented. Analysing the methods and devices used by terrorists I defined the different types. I evaluated and analysed the most important methods of terrorism and the attacks against military targets and processed the experiences of attacks against NATO,



and concluded that these must be included in a counter-terrorism program. In the study of the connection international terrorism and organised crime I concluded that their collaboration is so strong that cooperation between international police forces and military security would be desirable at theatre as well.

3. By the analysis of the counter-terrorism tasks of Hungarian national security services I proved that national coordination is realised on both theoretic and operational point of view. The co-operations have both positive and negative experiences, but the situation is very different at theatre in the field intelligence collection work against insurgent and terror organisations. Obviously, the civilian national security services are not present at theatres with such considerable forces to be able to efficiently contribute to force protection of contingents. At theatres the two military national security services efficiently fulfil their tasks based on law for the military contingents. In my analysis and evaluation I concluded that the merging of the two services by the adequate modification of the national security act would be advantageous.

By the introduction to the tasks of the MSO I proved that from tactical work it has stepped into strategic national security work environment and in its tasks long-term international tasks emerged, concerning which the national security act and the relevant government decree on the areas of responsibility need to be modified. I also verified the parallelism of the tasks of MSO and NATO security organizations.

By the analysis of the experiences of the MSO regarding the security protection of Hungarian military contingents I proved that there are gaps in the training of personnel and the need for more thorough training. I concluded that the solution against terror attacks is a program-based training.

Of the researches and analysis I concluded that in the Hungarian Defence Forces an anti-terrorism training program would be the framework to include personnel serving in national and foreign operations and for all other persons doing official duty at theatres and better-trained protected personnel could more efficiently support security and intelligence work conducted at theatres. I made a proposal for the program to be developed by the national security services, as they have a more focused view on threat factors.

4. I analysed and evaluated the fields that initiated the restructuring of NATO security organizations. I evaluated the importance of security service operational

information collection by agents with detailed reasons, and I processed the previous experiences including that of the Soviets' in Afghanistan and as a contrast of the Israelis in fighting Palestinian terrorism. NATO took these experiences into consideration in planning security operations. I concluded that in both cases the most successful work were the results of the services' complex and combined agent operations. I verified that possibilities, methods and content of security work in missions are different in regions of peace, crisis, and combat the crisis response operations require different approaches than routine security tasks conducted at national territory. By the introduction and analysis of operational activity of security organisations I proved that in the peacekeeping and crisis response operations of the North-Atlantic Treaty efficient security work can only be conducted in allied framework.

#### 4. NEW SCIENTIFIC RESULTS

As the result of the research conducted in the chosen topic I consider the following as scientific result:

1. I studied and analysed the global terror threats, the new challenges, the changed terrorism. I analysed and evaluated the terrorism-related work of the security organizations, primarily of the Military Security Office. I studied the general approach of terrorism from the military security point of view and I created and introduced the recruitment models of terror organizations, their training, and their intelligence activity against targets. I categorised and defined certain terrorist methods, analysed their attacks made against military targets at theatre and all this enhancing the safety of our troops.
2. I proved that following the accession to NATO the tasks of the Military Security Office to be conducted in international operations multiplied and also that the tasks of the MSO are synchronised with NATO security policy. I made a proposal for the integration of the military national services into one organization with the main tasks separated, which would considerably enhance force protection of our units in allied and national operations.
3. Based on experiences of MSO I proved by an empirical research that regarding terrorism there are gaps in the knowledge of the personnel serving in missions although there is a need by them for more detailed knowledge. The most apt conductors for such training are the national security services, and the method is a systematic anti-terrorism program, for which I drew up the framework.

4. Based on study of the support system for multinational combat forces I proved the necessity for enhancing security intelligence collection. I proved that more efficient work can be done in allied security organizations than in national confines.

#### 5. THE USEFULNESS OF THE THESIS, SUGGESTIONS

By the conclusions the thesis contributes to the evaluation of terrorism from the security point of view, uncovers relations, thus helps military and political decision-makers to form opinions according to NATO crisis management processes and for theoretic further (national) contribution to the alliance.

It may contribute to the organization to combat new challenges (insurgent warfare, with special attention on terrorism) and to the training and preparation of forces deployed to fight terrorism.

With the appendix it may be a source for researchers of security policy, for ones to make presentations of the topic, or it can serve as a base for persons interested in the topics of certain chapters.

It contributes to the training of personnel involved in planning, organizing and conducting NATO crisis response operations.

I find the thesis eligible for being source material for students studying at Hungarian universities and colleges and as an aid for training personnel to be deployed at theatres.

#### 6 . PUBLICATIONS BY THE AUTHOR

##### **Books, notes**

English-Hungarian, Hungarian-English dictionary. MK. KBH. 2003 pp. 1-150.

##### **Studies**

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1. Preventive steps can be taken against suicide terrorists. Tradecraft Review, Periodical of the Scientific Board of Military Security Office, 2009/Special Issue. pp. 13-17.
2. Terrorists Surveillance AARMS, Academic and Applied Research in Military Science 2007/2.
3. Operational intelligence of al-Kaida. Tradecraft Review, Periodical of the Scientific Board of Military Security Office,
4. Béres János-Beraczkai Antal: Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE). AARMS - Academic and Applied Research in Military Science.

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1. In the terrorist's modus operandi the suicide attacks are the first. Tradecraft Review, Periodical of the Scientific Board of Military Security Office, 2004/1.
  2. Old and new terrorist's threats. Tradecraft Review Periodical of the Scientific Board of Military Security Office, 2005/1.
  3. Kosovo is one of the crisis areas of Balkan. Sword and Pen. 2007/1.
  4. Methods and instruments used by terrorists and terrorists attacks against military targets. Periodical of the Scientific Board of Military Security Office, 2009/1.
- Is the radical Islam in Europe? Tradecraft Review,
5. Is the radical Islam in Europe? Tradecraft review, Periodical of the Scientific Board of Military Security Office, 2007/2 .
  6. Terrorism and Media. Sword and Pen. Publication of Military University 2006/2.
  7. Experience of national security protection of the Hungarian contingents. New Military Review. 2006/6.
  8. Suicide terrorists. Tradecraft review, Periodical of the Scientific Board of Military Security Office, 2009/2.
  9. Béres János-Beraczkai Antal Answer on terrorism. – The changing of the security system of USA. Tradecraft review, Periodical of the Scientific Board of Military Security Office, 2005/3.
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  16. Characteristics and general aspects of terrorism. 2003/3. Classified.
  17. Membership of NATO and changing the professional work in Military Security Office. 2002/1. Classified.
  18. Dr Hamar Ferenc, Beraczkai Antal Smuggling of nuclear materials and weapons of mass destruction. 1999/3. Classified.
  19. Dr Hamar Ferenc, Beraczkai Antal Conference about organised crime from national security aspects. 1999/2. Classified.
  20. Beraczkai Antal, Dr Hamar Ferenc Presence and spreading the radical Islam on Balkan. 2006/1. Classified.

## **Briefings and conferences**

- The counterterrorists tasks of the Military Security Office of Hungarian Republic. International Counterintelligence and Counterterrorist Conference (ICICT,) 2003. Brugee, Belgium. - 1 hour briefing to NATO terrorists experts.
- General and specific aspects of organized crime in peace keeping environment. NATO conference. 2003. 1 hour briefing.
- Specific areas of security policy. Budapest. 2006. 1 hour briefing.
- Spreading the radical Islam in the Balkan. International Counterintelligence and counterterrorist conference (ICICT). 2006. Budapest. – 1 hour briefing.
- „Vigilant Retort” Conference Luxemburg 2009. The Radical Islam in the Balkan. 1 hour briefing

## **7. Biography**

- I was born in 11 of February 1958. Budapest.
- 1972-1976 finished schools in Pápa.
- 1976-1980 military college in Szentendre as mechanised infantry cadet.
- 1980-1983 promoted to lieutenant and served in Zalaegerszeg as infantry platoon and company commander.
- 1983 finished police academy and became military security officer, staff officer.
- 1991-1994 Military Academy.
- 1994-2007 served in Military Security Office as department leader, deputy director. ( four times I was promoted extraordinarily in military ranks)
- 2007 serve in SHAPE as security department leader.
- Speak english, russian, french, german
- Married with two children.

4 July 2009 Budapest.

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