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STATUTE FOR THE UNIFIED COMMAND
of the Armed Forces
of the Warsaw Treaty Member-States

I. THE UNIFIED COMMAND

1. The Unified Command of the Armed Forces of the Warsaw Treaty Member-States conducts its activities in accordance with the Statutes of the Warsaw Treaty and based on the joint decisions of the governments of the member-states of the Treaty.

2. The Unified Command is composed of the Supreme Commander, his deputies and chief of staff, the command staff, the Committee on Technology, directorates, and departments.

3. The Unified Command has the following functions:

- To coordinate the development of plans for the strategic use of armies and fleets, designated by each state for joint activities;
- To develop proposals and recommendations for increasing the combat readiness of the armies and fleets, including their strategic and combat training, improving the weapons systems, and to develop proposals and recommendations for the preparation of the theater of operations and for the stockpiling of supplies and technical inventory;

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Douglas Selvage, Principal Investigator.

- To develop plans for joint efforts (such as exercises, training sessions, war games, technical assistance, meetings etc.) in coordination with the national commands for a period of 1-2 years and to guarantee their execution;
- To examine intelligence about the potential enemy, operational plans, order of battle, military equipment, and other questions relating to the imperialist armies, and to prepare proposals and recommendations;
- To study experiences, new methods and means for educating the troops, along with accomplishments in improving training facilities;
- To organize conferences and seminars on topics of general interest for the application of the latest developments in military science.

4. The government of each Warsaw Treaty member-state is the only party that has the right to make decisions regarding the proposals and recommendations of the Unified Command related to its the armed forces.

The groups, units, logistical support institutions, and military commands designated by each government for joint activities; their size, weaponry and equipment; and the size of their supply stocks are to be determined by each government in accordance with operational plans.

Forces designated for joint activities in both wartime and peacetime remain directly subordinate to their national commands, and their activities shall comply with the laws of the state to which they belong. The national governments hold the national commands fully responsible for the condition, armament, supplies, and combat readiness of their forces and for the creation of appropriate military and technical inventories.

Planning for the use of national armed forces designated for joint activities in wartime is carried out by the national commands in cooperation with the Unified Command, based on the orders of their national leadership and the agreements of the

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Treaty's member-states; the operational plan shall be approved by the government of the state in question.

Questions concerning the common defensive capabilities of the Warsaw Treaty member-states shall be addressed and resolved jointly by their governments.

5. The Unified Command shall have a Military Council, consisting of the Supreme Commander, who will serve as the council's chairman; his deputies and chief of staff will serve as members.

The Military Council shall have an advisory role. It is to examine major issues within the purview of the Unified Command.

Proposals and recommendations from the Military Council are to be approved by the governments of the Treaty's member-states.

Sessions of the Military Council are to be held, as a general rule, biannually and whenever necessary.

II. THE SUPREME COMMANDER

6. The Supreme Commander shall be appointed by the governments of the Treaty's member-states and selected from among the marshals (generals) of any Warsaw Treaty member-state.

7. The Supreme Commander shall organize and direct the activities of the Unified Command in fulfilling his duties as stipulated in the present Statute.

8. The Supreme Commander may address the governments and defense ministries of the Treaty member-states on matters relating to the activities of the Unified Command. He shall participate in the meetings of the Political Consultative Committee and give information reports when requested by the Committee.

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9. The Supreme Commander shall sign, together with the Minister of Defense, draft operational plans and other documents submitted to individual governments for approval.

III. DEPUTY SUPREME COMMANDERS

10. The Supreme Commander shall have one deputy from each country, along with deputies for air defense and armament.

The deputy supreme commanders from each country shall be appointed by their respective governments and shall be permanently stationed in their countries. At the same time, they shall serve as deputy ministers of defense.

11. The deputy supreme commanders for air defense of the Warsaw Treaty member-states and the deputy supreme commanders for armament shall be appointed by the governments of the Warsaw Treaty member-states. They are to be selected from the armed forces personnel of each country.

Their work shall be guided by the present Statute and the directives of the Supreme Commander, while the deputy [sic] for air defense shall, additionally, follow the Statute for the Unified Air Defense System of the Warsaw Treaty Member-States.

IV. UNIFIED COMMAND STAFF

12. The Unified Command Staff is to be the Supreme Commander's working body.

The Unified Command Staff shall be located in Moscow.

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13. The Unified Command Staff shall be staffed with the best-qualified generals and officers of the member-states, who will be relieved from their other military duties. Staffing shall be based on the principle of proportional representation for all the forces of the Warsaw Treaty member-states.

14. In order to learn and exchange experience, the generals and officers of the Staff shall participate in joint activities planned by the Unified Command and in events organized by the national commands (such as exercises, training sessions, war games, etc.) upon the invitation of these commands.

15. The Staff works in close cooperation with the General Staffs of the Warsaw Treaty member-states.

The national General Staffs shall coordinate questions regarding the deployment of forces, fleets, and staff headquarters designated for joint activities (at the division level or higher) with the Unified Staff and occasionally provide information to the Unified Staff in accordance with the jointly determined schedule and authorization.

V. CHIEF OF STAFF

17.¹ The Chief of Staff is the First Deputy Supreme Commander. He shall be appointed by the governments of the Warsaw Treaty member-states and selected from the armed forces personnel of any of these states. His work shall be guided by the present Statute and by the directives of the Supreme Commander.

He shall supervise the work of the Unified Command Staff and coordinate the activities of all of the administrative bodies of the Unified Command. He shall be

¹ Transl. Note: The original text skips from point “15” to “17”; there is no point “16.”

personally involved in the resolution of questions related to the operational use of forces designated for joint efforts.

18. The Chief of Staff of the Unified Command has deputies appointed from the forces of each Warsaw Treaty member-state at the level of deputy chiefs of staff of these armies. They shall work in the Unified Command Staff while simultaneously serving as senior representatives of their national general staffs in the Unified Command Staff.

VI.COMMITTEE ON TECHNOLOGY

19. A Committee on Technology shall be created under the Unified Command. The head of the Committee on Technology shall simultaneously serve as deputy supreme commander for armaments.

20. The Committee on Technology shall develop proposals regarding weapons systems and combat equipment for the forces of the Warsaw Treaty member-states; for research, development, and engineering work; and for other matters relating to armaments and military equipment in accordance with the Statute of the Warsaw Treaty member-states. Recommendations for the adoption of new weapons or models of military equipment shall be presented by the Supreme Commander, along with the ministers of defense, to the governments of the Warsaw Treaty member-states for approval.

21. The Committee on Technology shall form a military scientific-technical council, which shall meet two or three times annually. The council shall consist of deputy ministers of defense or deputy chiefs of general staff for armaments or specially-authorized persons. The head of the Committee on Technology shall chair the council.

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The military scientific-technical council shall present its findings to the Supreme Commander.

VII. BUDGET AND FUNDING OF THE UNIFIED COMMAND'S ACTIVITIES

22. The activities of the Unified Command shall be funded from a budget based on proportional contributions from the armed forces of the Warsaw Treaty member-states.

The budget and its disbursement shall be approved annually by the governments of the member-states.

23. Expenses for the salaries, subsistence and lodging, medical care, and other allowances to generals and officers who serve in the Unified Command shall be paid by the national commands of the armed forces of the Warsaw Treaty member-states in accordance with the existing regulations and guidelines of the states concerned.

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24. The duties of the generals and officers of the Unified Command, along with the procedures for their assignment and service in the Unified Command, shall be determined by the Supreme Commander and agreed upon by the Ministers of Defense of the Warsaw Treaty member-states.

² Transl. Note: Included in the original text.

[Translation by Julia La Villa Nossova]

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