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### 1. Defence Policy: NATO-Ukraine Joint Working Group (JWG) meeting

The next meeting of the NATO-Ukraine Joint Working Group (JWG) on Defense Reform in the format of the core group was held at the NATO headquarters in Brussels on 18 March, which was chaired by NATO Assistant GS for Defence Policy, Ambassador I. Shedevi.

*Comment:* During the meeting, representatives of the NATO International Staff, the delegations of the alliance's countries, along with their Ukrainian colleagues discussed the experience and priorities of involving experts from NATO member states in supporting the execution of tasks on the reform of the Ukrainian security and defense sector.

At the same time a status of the NATO-Ukraine Program implementation in the area of civil and military personnel training has been evaluated and the achievements of the Ukraine-USA bilateral cooperation main aspects were brought in for consideration.

JWG emerged as a main tool for implementation of Charter on a Distinctive Partnership between NATO and Ukraine, and now it's functioning as consulting mechanism between NATO and Ukraine.

### 2. Personnel management: the Ukrainian Navy C-in-C is appointed

On March 18, in Sevastopol, M. Ezhel, Ukrainian Minister of Defence introduced newly appointed Navy C-in-C, Vice Admiral Victor Maximov.

*Comment:* V. Maximov was born in 1951. In 1969 he finished Kalinin Suvorov military school and 1974 was graduated from Chernomorsk Higher Navy School named P. Nahimov. He had also been graduated from Leningrad Navy Academy in 1985. During 1974 – 1979 he had been servicing in Poland and then experiencing on Black Sea from 1985 till 1997. Since 1997 he acted as deputy of Ukrainian Navy C-in-C with particular responsibility for Navy combat training. Then he has been in charge for a maritime equipment and ship maintenance service. His last post was a Deputy of Ukrainian Navy C-in-C.

### 3. Combat training: inspection of the Ukrainian Armed Forces units

The MoD General inspection Department started a survey activity of 6<sup>th</sup> Army Corps units last week on 15 March.

*Comment:* the aim is to check units' and C2 system capability to get a full operational readiness at short notice. The commission was to examine a completeness and compliance of staff documents and status of equipment, supplies and materials. The C2 functionality of Army Corpse HQ, its subordinate units located in two areas Gvardiyske and Cherkassky and personnel skills were in the inspection interest as well.

### 4. Peacekeeping: training the trainers

The two-week "Train the Trainers" course has been started in Yavoriv International Center for Peacekeeping and Security, on March 15.

*Comment:* a primary purpose to prepare a number of those servicemen who will support in future a peacekeeping training of personnel, intended to participate in PSO. This course is being conducted under UN – Ukraine cooperation through "Global Initiative for PSO support" Program. The most instructors are the members of Postgraduate Navy School and experts from Norway, Sweden, Germany and USA.

The UN Military Observers role, Rules of Engagement, Code of Conduct, Media Relations, DDR and Medical Awareness are among the main training objectives.

### 5. International Training: "Northern Falcon 2010"

Preparing for the "Northern Falcon 2010", a joint Ukrainian-Danish operation intended for a fuel transporting, the Ukrainian IL-76MD pilots form Air Transport Bde conducted training flights on 17 March.

*Comment:* totally 15 flights of 11 hrs length have been made by IL-76 aircrafts during one flying day. Two Ukrainian air crews with 31 servicemen and theatre air lift aircraft IL-76MD will take part in "Northern Falcon 2010" operation from 6 to 23 April this year. During tasks accomplishment for fuel transportation in Greenland territory, Ukrainian unit will also conduct NATO self-evaluation. Participation in such exercise gives a great opportunity to learn much from experienced NATO and EU countries for Air Forces development, air safety and traffic control methods and creation of modern C2 structure. During last year operation named "Cossacks on the floe", Ukrainians managed to transport 560 thousand liters of fuel, 200 passengers and more than 61 tons of heavy equipment and food. In total, the pilots made 42 cargo flights of 82 hrs.

### 6. International military training: Command Post Exercise (CPX) "Viking – 2011"

On 16 March in Zhitomir training area was conducted preparing activity for a future "Viking – 2011".

*Comment:* CPX "Viking – 2011", a simulation exercise is planned to be carried out in Zhitomir training area in 2011 with the participation of USA, Ukraine and Kingdom of Sweden.

It has a main purpose to develop the integration, interoperability and understanding in conducting the PSO with different forces and facilities. The UN, NATO and EU representatives will participate also.

### 7. Verification activities: inspection of designated areas in Ukraine

On 16 March the multinational inspection team from Romania, Turkey and Slovenia arrived in Ukraine for conducting the inspection in accordance with Vienna Document 99.

*Comment:* The team is led by Romanian Army Col M. Manta. Experts will survey the designated areas in Odessa, Mykolaiv, Kherson and Dnipropetrovsk regions. Vienna Document is a politically binding document for all OSCE Security

Cooperation forum members. This document recognizes the importance of development and strengthening of Confidence and Security Building Measures (CSBMs). Along with other OSCE documents, the aim of VD '99 is to strengthen mutual confidence and dispel possible concerns of state members about certain military activities in order to emphasize and expand openness and transparency. VD '99 was formally adopted by 55 state members on 16 November 1999 in Istanbul. The Vienna Document 1999 contains two kinds of verification measures: inspections of designated areas and evaluation visits.

#### **8. Military equipment: phase-in of the new combat aircraft**

The Minister of Defence by his Order #104, dated 04 March has made operational the new aircraft Su-25UBM1 and Su-25M1.

**Comment:** The Sukhoi Su-25 nicknamed "Grach" ("Rook"), NATO reporting name: Frogfoot. UAF AF utilizes Su-25 to provide close air support for ground forces at day and night. The first prototype had made its flight on 22 February 1975. After a testing, this aircraft went into series production in 1978 at Tbilisi, Georgia and since then more than 210 aircraft were exported to other countries. Su-25 was heavily involved in the Soviet war in Afghanistan (1979-1989), the Iraqi regime employed Su-25s during 1980–89 Iran–Iraq War and other local conflicts around the world. Currently more than 20 countries use Su-25 as main close air support asset.

Su-25M1 and Su-25UBM1 modernization is done by Ukrainian MoD's Aircraft Repair Plants and test flights were performed on the UAF State testing Center's training area "Chauda". In result of upgrading of Su-25 the aiming-navigation system was greatly improved.

All upgrade of air assets will keep combatant value of Ukrainian AF at a high level. For example the US is planning to use attack aircraft A-10 Thunderbolt II up to 2028. Comparative features of attack aircraft Su-25 and A-10 see in annex 1 to IAO VN № 11/2010

#### **9. Military equipment: MBT "Oplot" production**

Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine went to the expense for the Ministry of Industrial Politics to finalize a production of MBT "Oplot".

**Comment:** The Oplot main battle tank is based on a T-84, but has a number of advanced characteristics which distinguish it from the previous version. These include the following: explosive reactive armour, new all-welded turret, hull, digitization of the electronics packages associated with the fire-control system, navigation and observing systems, a new transmission and engine, etc.

In 2009 the Ukrainian Ministry of Defence has put the MBT Oplot into service after 2008-09 extensive trials.

The main fire power of Oplot is based on: advanced searching capacity in fire-control system, high speed weapon system activation, fire efficiency, ammunition load and advanced barrel stabilizing system, which increases kill probability on 5-7%.

## Attack aircraft's comparison features

Performance	Su-25T	Su-39 <sup>1</sup>	A-10A Thunderbolt II
Combat radius, km	400-700	450-800	460-1000
Operational range, km	1850	4100	4000
Service ceiling, m	10000	12000	13500
Armament	1x30-mm double barrel canon GSh-30-2 with 300 rounds	1x30-mm cannon GSh-30-1	1× 30 mm (1.18 in) GAU-8/A Avenger gatling cannon with 1350 rounds
Max payload, kg	10 hardpoints <sup>2</sup> for 4360 kg	8 hardpoints <sup>3</sup> for 4500	11 hardpoints <sup>4</sup> for 7260
<b>Dimensions</b>			
Wingspan, m	14,52	14,52	17,53
Length, m	15,33	15,53	16,26
Height, m	5,2	5,2	4,47
Wing area, sq. m	30,1	30,1	47,01
<b>Weight, kg</b>			
- empty weight	9500	10740	11321
- take off weight	16600	16950	14865
- max take off weight	19500	21500	22680
Max power trust, kgp	2 x 4500	2 x 4500	2 x 4110
<b>Max speed, km/h</b>			
- aloft	950	970	834
- surface level	870	870	706

**Note:**

- <sup>1</sup> **Su-39** (called Su-25TM until 1996) is modernized Su-25T;
- <sup>2</sup> **Max payload of Su-25T** - 10 hardpoints for 4360 kg: AT assault weapon "Vikhr" with 16 anti-tank missiles (2x8 pods), Air-to-Surface missiles: X-29T(L), X-25ML and S-25, antiradar missiles H-58, 4 x Antiship missile H-31A, H-35, 57 x 370-mm rockets, bombs (general-purpose bombs, cluster bombs, guided bombs, nuclear bombs). 4 x AAM R-60, R-72 or RBE-DE. Additional aircraft movement canon pods (with 30 mm canon) or ARP 45 canon can be mounted to the hardpoints. The ARP 45 canon with 45 mm caliber is firing 1250 shots per minute. Canon round has length 250 mm and equipped by jet engine and shaped-charge warhead with armor-penetrating ability up to 200 mm;
- <sup>3</sup> **Su-39 payload consists of** 8 hardpoints for 4500kg: AT assault weapon "Vikhr" with 16 anti-tank missiles (2x8 pods), Air-to-Surface missiles such as X-29T(L), X-25ML and S-25, antiradar missiles -58, 4 x Antiship missile H-31A, H-35, 57 x 370-mm rockets, bombs (general-purpose bombs, cluster bombs, guided bombs, nuclear bombs). 4 x AAM R-60, R-72 or RBE-DE.
- <sup>4</sup> **A-10A Thunderbolt-2 payload has** - 11 (8 x under-wing and 3 x under-fuselage pylon stations) with a capacity of 7260 kg (or 6505 kg with aux fuel tanks) and provisions to carry combinations of: 6 x AGM-65 Maverick Air-to-Surface missiles, 9 or 16 AT guided missiles AGM-114 Hellfire, 2 x AIM-9 Sidewinders Air-to-Air missiles for self-defense, 6907-kg optic guided bombs GBU-15, 18 x 227-kg laser-guided bomb GBU-12 Paveway II, 12 x 454-kg Mk.83 bombs or 28 x 227-kg Mk.82 bombs, 20 x Rockeye Mk.20 cluster bombs, 9 x BLU-1 or BLU-27 napalm bombs, 16 CBU-52, CBU-71 cluster bomb containers, 2 containers SUU-23/A with 20-mm cannon, 10 launchers LAU-68 7x69(85) for rockets.