

Activities of the military intelligence of the Polish People's Republic during the Vietnam War in 1965 – 1975

Abstract

The aim of the dissertation is an attempt to show and characterize the intelligence activities of officers and non-commissioned officers belonging to the military division of the Polish People's Republic in two international peace missions in Vietnam: the International Commission for Supervision and Control (ICSC) in 1954 – 1973 and the International Commission for Control and Supervision (ICCS) 1973 – 1975. The affiliation of the Polish People's Republic to the bloc of Communist countries controlled by Moscow and global competition between The United States and the USSR determined Warsaw's policy towards the Vietnamese conflict, including military intelligence in Vietnam.

The dissertation consists of an introduction, eight chapters divided into subsections, conclusions, a list of archive materials and source literature.

In chapter I the author presented political and military situation of Vietnam from the late nineteenth and early twentieth century until the end of the First Indochina War, characterized the situation of Vietnam during World War II, showed, how France lost its political and military significance in Asia, analysed the causes of the First Indochina War, presented the strategy and tactics of military operations led by the French and Vietnamese armies – Viet Minh and the provisions of the Geneva Conference in 1954.

Chapter II showed the military involvement of American forces in the Vietnamese theatre of war and issues related to the expansion of the Vietnamese People's Army, Viet Cong. The author analyses the most important offensives and military operations during the Second Indochina War (Rolling Thunder, Linebacker I and II, Tet Offensive, Easter Offensive). The author concluded the chapter with a discussion of the provisions of the Paris Peace Accords in 1973.

In Chapter III the author presented the role and significance of diplomatic relations between the Polish People's Republic and the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, described cooperation in the scientific, military, economic and cultural environment as well as presented the diplomatic activities of a Polish diplomat J. Lewandowski in the Operation Marigold.

Chapter IV showed the organizational structure of the Second Unit of the General Staff of Polish Armed Forces in 1945 – 1951, which – at this time – was transformed into the Second Directorate of the General Staff of Polish Armed Forces. The author characterized particular organizational units included in the military intelligence of the Polish People's Republic, in particular the Military Unit 2000 dealing with selection and training of officers sent to foreign missions.

Chapter V describes the International Commission for Supervision and Control (both civil department and military department). The author presented official and unofficial activities of Polish delegation, characterized the entire process related to obtaining and transferring informations towards Warsaw, depicted the role and significance of the Military Attaché at the Embassy of the Polish People's Republic in Hanoi and its intelligence activities.

Chapter VI presents the International Commission for Control and Supervision in Vietnam (both civil department and military department). The author presented official and unofficial activities of Polish delegation and the brought up the issue of living conditions of the polish officers.

Chapter VII characterized the structure and tasks of the residency (station) of Palm created in 1973 in South Vietnam and its intelligences cooperation with the Hungarian residency and with the Democratic Republic of Vietnam.

Chapter VIII outlined the issue of cooperation between intelligence agencies of the Warsaw Pact countries, in particular between the Polish People's Republic, USSR and Hungarian People's Republic.

The author hopes, that the presented dissertation will contribute to the interest of other researchers in the subject of the activity of military intelligence cells.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Musielko". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.