The Role of Modern Intelligence in the Organization of Artillery Intelligence in Military Conflicts

Roman I. Ismailov

Academy of The Armed Forces of The Republic of Uzbekistan

The analysis of armed conflicts over the past decades proves time and again that artillery has a worthy role to play in inflicting casualties on the enemy.

Based on the analysis of mistakes, shortcomings and lessons learned in armed conflicts, research has been conducted over the years on the improvement of artillery weapons and their ammunition, as well as the use of effective methods of inflicting casualties on the enemy.

As a result, new models of artillery weapons appeared and the characteristics of the ammunition they used changed. This is leading to a change in the tactics used by the artillery in combat operations. The fact that the artillery units inflicted clear losses on the enemy in a short period of time and immediately left the firing positions is the basis for ensuring its survival in combat operations. In short, the combat capabilities of artillery are increasing.

Artillery intelligence plays an important role in increasing the combat capabilities of artillery. Therefore, in armed conflicts, the parties focus on the identification of enemy targets and the use of modern intelligence in the management of artillery fire.

Artillery reconnaissance units typically perform their functions using optical, radar, sound, and aerial reconnaissance.

We will briefly consider the experience of conducting artillery reconnaissance in modern military conflicts on the example of the experience of hostilities in the Syrian Arab Republic and Nagorno-Karabakh.

In combat operations in the SAR, artillery reconnaissance was conducted mainly by unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) and optical reconnaissance vehicles.

In reconnaissance of artillery fire, air reconnaissance was carried out by regular and irregular forces involved in combat operations from unmanned aerial vehicles manufactured in a number of advanced countries.

The main function of the UAV is to control enemy firing by searching, identifying, recognizing, and locating their coordinates with high accuracy in key focus areas and movement routes in the state and in the depth of impact of attached casualties.

Figure 1. Grenada 2. Produced by the Russian Federation

Unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) protected from the effects of enemy radio-electronic reconnaissance are said to be the most effective artillery reconnaissance vehicles in controlling artillery fire. In the Syrian Arab Republic, various unmanned aerial vehicles have been used by regular forces to organize artillery reconnaissance, monitor casualties, and control artillery fire, some of which are shown in Figures 1 and 2.

Figure 2. Grenade 4. Manufactured by RF

The armed conflicts that have taken place have led to major changes in the tactics of hostilities. According to foreign military experts, the parties performed tasks such as organizing artillery reconnaissance, high-precision detection of enemy targets, tracking casualties and transmitting the necessary information in real time, often using drones (often drones) (Figure 3). This required the parties to fight new threats and dangers in the fight and to find new ways to increase survival.

The constant use of unmanned aerial vehicles and artillery systems by the Azerbaijani Armed Forces in the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict has ensured the effective implementation of its elimination tasks.

In the organization and conduct of artillery reconnaissance, the capabilities of unmanned aerial vehicles were widely used, thus covering all artillery systems in terms of depth and width of artillery reconnaissance, as well as the longest range of operational and tactical complexes.

According to social media, in the interests of artillery intelligence, the Azerbaijani Armed Forces have made extensive use of unmanned aerial vehicles, mainly produced in Turkey and Israel (Figure 4), while the Armenian Armed Forces have used their own (Figure 5) and modern Russian-made drones. used unmanned aerial vehicles.

Figure 3. Aerostar (Israel)

Figure 4. Krunk (Armenia)

Optical and optical-electronic intelligence were used in military conflicts in the Syrian Arab Republic, depending on the type of combat. In offensive battles, the command post was not extended. The battery commanders commanded the firing while in the firing positions. Intelligence information was provided by the top headquarters.

In defensive-type battles, it was used in a more classical way, that is, by spreading command-and-control points and side (advanced) observation points to determine the distance, steering angle, and firing at casualties. Another unique new way of conducting artillery reconnaissance is the training of artillery specialists moving in pairs.

The conclusions drawn from the analysis of modern armed conflicts require the immediate identification of the enemy and the implementation of firing. If this requirement is not met, it will not be possible to destroy the enemy. According to an artillery officer of the Russian Federation Army who took part in the fighting in the Syrian Arab Republic, it took more than 10 hours

Figure 5. Bayraktar TB2 (Turkey)

for the militants to destroy the mortar group, according to social media reports. One of the main reasons is that the mortar group has high maneuverability. Shortly after firing, he left his position and maneuvered to another new firing position.

Therefore, in order to carry out immediate damage to enemy objects, the time of the intelligence cycle, decision-making and readiness to perform the task of firing should not exceed half of the time the target is in the firing position (location)..

It is not difficult to understand from the data provided how important the role of artillery intelligence is in the management of artillery fire in armed conflicts.

Taking into account the above, the following can be **concluded**:

1. Unmanned aerial vehicles are widely used to ensure that artillery units and units effectively perform the tasks assigned to them.

2. Artillery units are using unusual methods in the acquisition of combat order, depending on the type and nature of the battle.

3. One of the most pressing issues today is to consider the reform of the weapons and reconnaissance procedures of intelligence units in order to ensure the successful implementation of artillery fire control tasks.

4. One of the most important factors influencing the survival of artillery units today is the fact that artillery intelligence units are equipped with modern intelligence tools.

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