

Polish Operational Plans During Cold War as Part of Warsaw Pact Strategic Culture

Authors : Wiktor Stypczyński

Abstract : During the Cold War, both sides of the conflict developed advanced operational plans in case of a Third World War outbreak. In the Warsaw Pact, Soviet generals in Moscow chose targets for each army, but each country's General Staff had to create specific plans for their nation. This led to the creation of a Strategic Culture within the Warsaw Pact that was reflected in the plans of each army. This paper aims to showcase the Strategic Culture of the Warsaw Pact by using the plans of the People's Polish Army as an example. Examining one army at a time will allow for a more detailed and unique perspective on the matter. Understanding the past Strategic Culture is crucial in comprehending the current post-Soviet strategic situation in Eastern Europe, especially with the current situation in Ukraine. This paper is based on Benon Miśkiewicz's classic methodology of military history. While this methodology is the foundation, the research findings will also draw on the Strategic Studies methodology and the accomplishments of war and military science. Additionally, the Security and Political Studies methodology will be a crucial element in constructing the narrative.

Keywords : cold war, operational plans, strategic culture, polish people's army

Conference Title : ICMSS 2024 : International Conference on Military and Strategic Studies

Conference Location : London, United Kingdom

Conference Dates : November 25-26, 2024