

RESOLUTION NO. 88/ 1995/ VII.6./ OF THE HUNGARIAN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ON THE GUIDELINES OF THE LONG- AND MEDIUM-TERM RESTRUCTURING AND ON THE STRENGTH OF THE HUNGARIAN DEFENSE FORCES

Following up on a motion of the Government, the Hungarian National Assembly takes the following resolution on the restructuring of the Hungarian Defense Forces:

1. It considers as necessary the restructuring of the Hungarian Defense Forces in a way that is in accordance with the level of threat to the Republic of Hungary, the burden-carrying capacity of the country as well as with the intention to join the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.
2. As a result of the restructuring and in a gradual manner consisting of several phases, a modern armed force smaller than the present one but equipped with a credible deterrent should be established that can be integrated into the military structures of NATO. Restructuring will have to affect spheres of life of the army, including: the battle order, the organizational structure and the system of leadership of the Hungarian Defense Forces; the principles of application; alertness and mobilization, the system of recruitment, preparation, training and education; the replacement and updating of military technology; the system of planning, management and material and technical security; proportions between branches; living and working conditions of personnel; the restructuring of internal conditions; military science and social relations of the Hungarian Defense Forces.
3. In the long run, that is, by 2005, the structure of the Defense Forces must be transformed in such a way that there be a reduction of personnel and of its organization in both peace- and wartime while the combat capabilities must be increased through the introduction of new and up-to-date technology.
 - a. The strength of the Hungarian Defense Forces should at all times amount to 0.5 - 0.55 % of the population in peacetime and three times as many in wartime.
 - b. The composition according to armed services and branches such basically not change. However, there should be an improvement of the proportion of the immediately applicable forces.
 - c. While maintaining the system of conscription, the process the current, regular type of system based on drafting into a volunteer and conscript armed force system should be continued,
 - d. Within the system of management, supply and maintenance of the armed forces, a determinant role should be assigned to acquisition and utilization of the various services and insurances through orders from the national economy. The system of wartime supply should also be transformed.
4. In the medium term, that is, until 1998 and on the basis of the Constitution, the Law and the resolutions adopted by the National Assembly, the Hungarian Defense Forces should comply with the following requirements:

- a. The most important task of the armed forces in peacetime is the continuous training and preparation of personnel and troops,
- b. They should be capable of eliminating armed troops penetrating into the territory of the country with a peacetime forces applicable within a short period of time and in co-operation with border patrol companies. To that end, the combat technique of fully operational military organizations must be kept in a state of immediate applicability.
- c. They should be capable of counteracting in peacetime against aircraft pursuing offensive activities in the airspace of the country. There should be an appropriate level of alert service to that end.
- d. They should be capable of immediately proceeding with the military tasks of crisis management with the peacetime strength of assigned units as well as with other units following augmentation and short preparation of the latter.
- e. They should participate in the implementation of multinational training activities and in international missions - primarily under UN authority - with forces trained to that end.
- f. In a state of emergency, they should be able to participate in the protection of constitutional order, public order and public safety as well as to contribute to disaster-relief operations.
- g. They should be able, in the case of escalation of crisis or the emergence of a threat of war to carry out strategic defense operations after a few months of training following the taking of the necessary decisions.
- h. They should be able to defend the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the country in wartime.

5. The Hungarian Defense Forces will have to be restructured on the basis of existing material supplies and assets and after the elimination of stocks and armament material that have become superfluous and after a reduction of the number of military installations in such a way as to enable it to continuously fulfill its basic tasks and to ensure the conditions for funding of the latter. The Hungarian Defense Forces should be smaller in number and personnel and consists of less organizational elements than at present in both peace- and wartime. Its composition according to branches and services should not change significantly. Its peace- and wartime command system should become simpler and there should be a decrease in the number and personnel of background institutions and command structures as well:

- a. The peacetime strength of the Hungarian Defense Forces must not be more than 60,000 troops by the end of 1998. The number of its bodies should decrease accordingly. As for the personnel strength of the Defense Forces, the following proportions should be approached: officers should constitute 15 %, non-commissioned officers 18 % and civil servants 13 %. Simultaneously, the number of contracted soldiers should increase within the number of troops. The wartime personnel strength of the Hungarian Defense Forces should be three times higher than in peacetime.
- b. There should be a transformation of the supreme command of the Hungarian Defense Forces and accordingly, there should be a new peacetime command system. The number

and personnel strength of medium-level commands should decrease. Accordingly, the Supreme Command of the Hungarian Defense Forces should be transformed into a General Staff of the Defense Forces. Upon disbanding of the Command of Ground Troops and of the Military District Commands, a Mechanized Army Corps Command should be established for the ground troops - to which a division command should be subordinated - while the Air Defense Command should be replaced by an Air Force and Air Defense Army Corps Command. The Budapest Military District Command should be replaced by a Command for Centrally Assigned Organizations. Organs for material and technical supply should be led by a Central Logistics Command.

c. An updated and NATO-compatible organizational, alertness and mobilization system should be established to ensure the appropriate state of readiness for every situation and would comply with the necessary conditions and duties. It should simultaneously, i.e. partially - on the level of certain units or sub-units - also ensure the possibility of being augmented to the level of a wartime organization.

6. The possibility of reducing armed and disarmed conscript service from 12 to 9 months should be considered and if conditions allow for it, preparations will have to be made for the introduction of the new service duration.

7. In accordance with the concept on the restructuring of the Hungarian Defense Forces, the implementation of the reduction of organizations and personnel as well as the increase of contracted personnel based on current resources should start as of 1995.

8. Institutions of higher military education operating under the direct supervision of the Minister of Defense should be transformed according to the Act on Higher Education.

Besides officer and postgraduate training, institutions of higher military education, that is, universities and colleges should also ensure transparency between military and civilian educational institutions.

9. Military technological development should ensure in the long run that the instruments of the Defense Forces which will have a new organizational structure and change in magnitude be continuously innovated, as a result of which an armed force should emerge that will be equipped with updated means that correspond to the defense requirements also from the technological point of view.

a. The funding of military technological development programs should be planned within the framework of a program-budgeting system.

b. In the course of financing military technological innovation one should rely in the medium term, besides the program-budgeting system, on the exploration and utilization of the various assistance programs, preferential credit constructions and on possibilities for co-operation in the field of production as well as on the broadest possible inclusion of domestic industries.

c. Procurement of new means and the technical innovation of the existing and suitable means should constitute the fundamental tools of implementation. To that end, as of 1997, the annual defense budget will have to be calculated in a way that takes into account that 80-85 % of it may be spent for the sustainment of the Defense Forces and 15-20 % on its further development.

10. During the entire period of implementing the measures aiming at the reduction of organizations and personnel, the Government should pay particular attention to the development of international and domestic circumstances that have a determinant impact on the country's security and should continuously inform the competent committees of the National Assembly on the conclusions it will make during the assessment of the latter. In cases of necessity, the Government should initiate steps in the field of foreign and security policy to enhance the country's security as well as defense-related measures.

11. The National Assembly empowers the Government to elaborate, in accordance with the present resolution, the long- and medium-term program of the restructuring of the Hungarian Defense Forces, which also contain the human policy-related tasks included in the process of restructuring. On the basis of the motion it should also submit suggestions for the necessary legal amendments until 31 December 1995. Necessary changes in the number of personnel require a parliamentary decision.

12. The Government should report every six months to the Defense Committee of the National Assembly on the implementation of the resolution of the National Assembly.

[Quelle: Joó, Rudolf (Hrsg.): Hungary: A Member of NATO, Budapest 1999, S.137-140.]