



T.A. Samaev, M.V. Darbishev

National Defense University of the Republic of Kazakhstan,
Astana, Kazakhstan

E-mail: dosent.Samaev@mail.ru

SOME ASPECTS OF THE USE OF AIRBORNE ASSAULT TROOPS IN MODERN MILITARY CONFLICTS

Abstract. The article examines the specifics of using airborne troops in modern military conflicts, which are characterized by high dynamism, asymmetric threats and extensive use of high technologies. The main focus is on the analysis of the tactics and strategy of airborne troops, identifying key problems of their combat use and developing recommendations for their solution. Particular attention is paid to the use of modern technologies, such as artificial intelligence and machine learning, to improve the effectiveness of combat operations

The study is based on the historical and modern experience of using airborne assault troops, as well as the results of modeling combat scenarios demonstrating ways to improve their combat effectiveness in the face of modern challenges.

Keywords: Republic of Kazakhstan, Armed Forces, airborne assault troops, tactical airborne assault, military conflict, asymmetric conflicts.

Introduction.

The experience of foreign countries and the analysis of the structure of the armed forces today show that priority in the mobile component is given to airborne formations, units and subdivisions.

Airborne troops (hereinafter AVT) are one of the most mobile and universal instruments of the armed forces. Their role has increased significantly in modern conflicts, where reaction speed and the ability to operate in isolated areas are important.

The primary uses of AAT are:

- first, seizing strategically significant targets such as airfields, bridges, and communication centers;
- second, carrying out operations behind enemy lines to disrupt their activities;
- thirdly, maintaining control over territories in a difficult combat situation;
- fourthly, participation in asymmetric conflicts that require high adaptability.

Examples of the successful use of airborne assault vehicles in real conflicts confirm their importance: the operations of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (hereinafter referred to as NATO) in Afghanistan, the use of Russian airborne assault vehicles in Syria, as well as participation in local conflicts where quick and decisive action is required.



The purpose of this study is to identify the features of the use of airborne assault troops in modern military conflicts, analyze emerging problems and develop recommendations for their solution to improve the effectiveness of combat missions.

Materials and Methods.

The research was conducted on the basis of studying domestic and foreign scientific literature using theoretical research methods (historical, logical, idealization). General scientific provisions of research methods were used, such as analysis of theoretical sources, historical analysis, comparative analysis, interpretation, generalization and personal service experience.

Results and Discussion.

Assessing the Airborne Forces as a high-level mobile component of the army, it is necessary to emphasize their exceptional ability to perform various fire missions on the battlefield using a wide range of weapons and special equipment.

The strategy of use, based on the principles of airborne assault operations, involves close interaction with helicopter units - combat and transport-landing - at key moments: direct landing (drop), consolidation of forces after landing and maneuvering. Joint actions of the landing force with the air component play a special role in the capture, destruction or neutralization of enemy targets; these operations are strictly coordinated within the framework of specific missions and have clear time limits. A promising direction in this area is the use of artificial intelligence and machine learning. Automated systems based on machine learning can significantly improve the training of soldiers, providing a detailed analysis of their shooting results, identifying errors and promptly correcting them. This ensures the processing of research and development results to determine measurement indicators using the automation of intelligent data analysis [1, p.62].

During Operation Desert Storm, the US-NATO alliance used a different tactic of airborne assault. Mobile helicopter detachments, called tactical airmobile groups (TAMgr), usually consisting of companies, operated ahead of the main forces and on the flanks. When attacking the enemy, tactical artillery mortar groups (TAMgr) were used in combination with covering troops on the open flanks of the front, as well as autonomously in the gap between the covering units and the forward detachments, or in pairs with them, essentially performing the functions of our forward units. During combat operations, TAMgrs not only carried out reconnaissance and protected their troops, but also blocked individual directions of a possible enemy attack. They carried out operations to counter the landing of troops and the fight against partisans, and also carried out false and demonstrative actions. In addition, the groups carried out tasks assigned by the priority brigades, in particular, they pursued, surrounded and destroyed the retreating enemy. The seizure and holding of key sites and territories in the enemy's rear were typically carried out by them as a secondary mission. Tactical airmobile groups (TAMgr) were composed of an airmobile company, a transport and assault helicopter



company, a platoon (or company) of combat helicopters, up to a battery of 105-mm howitzers, along with airmobile and logistical support units.

The deployment of airmobile forces highlights their capacity to operate effectively in environments where the enemy employs precision-guided munitions, conducts operations across a broad front, holds areas difficult to reach by ground troops, or maintains an uneven force distribution. Consequently, the key distinction in the American and NATO approach to using airborne units lies in their role—not only as tactical airborne forces, but also as independent combat elements operating in specific zones with support from various types of helicopters.

It was assumed that air operations would include the following elements:

- simultaneous or sequential destruction of several enemy targets;
- temporary placement of airborne units in shelters (bunkers);

Based on these principles, the structure of the combat forces of the airborne operation was proposed:

- a group for capturing objects;
- a reconnaissance and attack helicopter group;
- a supporting security and protective group, and an aviation strike detachment.

The composition of each group was to be determined taking into account the characteristics of the enemy's defensive structures, which implies different tasks for each unit: capture, protection, or cover, respectively [2, p. 30]. In short, this meant a sudden and rapid attack on the enemy using helicopters in combination with simultaneous strikes by the main forces in various directions. If necessary, maneuvers were carried out by large airborne forces, air attacks and landings were carried out to ensure a breakthrough of fortified enemy positions.

An important aspect was to limit the time of the operation to destroy helicopter targets to 20-30 minutes - an hour, so that the paratroopers had time to retreat before a possible counterattack by enemy reserves.

Therefore, during all-round defense in azimuth directions, it is advisable to bypass the enemy with high-speed helicopter maneuvers from the depth, that is, to actively use helicopter ambushes to combat the enemy during his attack.

This approach reveals a noticeable deficiency in contemporary military theory - the lack of in-depth scientific development regarding the organization and execution of airborne assault operations. Modern doctrine does not offer a comprehensive or scientifically validated system for the coordinated application of parachute and airmobile (helicopter-based) assault forces within a unified operational framework. As a result, the full potential of these highly mobile units remains underutilized in both strategic planning and battlefield execution.

However, this gap has not gone entirely unaddressed. A number of Russian military scholars have conducted scientific research focused on the integrated combat use of parachute and helicopter assault units. These studies aim to develop a cohesive concept and unified project for their joint deployment, recognizing the importance of synergy between different types of airborne forces to enhance the effectiveness and flexibility of modern military operations (Table 2).



Table 2 - Methods for performing the immediate task by airborne troops

№ п/п	Methods of performing airborne tasks
1.	The enemy's forces in the landing zone, including both immediate and deep reserves, are subjected to firepower through aerial missile strikes conducted by higher command.
2.	An air assault attack and the capture by an airborne assault regiment of commanding heights on the approaches to the landing area of the division's main forces and the conduct of a maneuverable defense on the routes of the enemy's reserves
3.	Rapid approach of the main forces of the division to the enemy from the front in directions accessible for troop actions, with simultaneous maneuvering and the exit of a bypass detachment by helicopter to the flank and rear of the enemy group defending in the direction of the main attack

Therefore, it is important to highlight several key characteristics that define modern air assault operations:

Firstly, their high operational efficiency - including the ability to cover vast distances quickly, engage in combat rapidly, and just as swiftly withdraw from the battlefield.

Secondly, the capacity for rapid dispersal across extensive areas, allowing for decentralized action.

Thirdly, operations are often conducted along a broad front and at significant depth, without clear territorial boundaries, and are typically focal in nature, involving surprise strikes against the enemy's flanks and rear positions.

Fourthly, these operations involve executing multiple complex tasks simultaneously, characterized by high speed, maneuverability, and the dynamic nature of combat engagements [3, p. 212].

To further enhance the effectiveness of air assault operations, one of the strategic priorities is the modernization of transport and combat helicopters. This includes expanding their personnel-carrying capacity and increasing their operational range. For instance, as a result of improvements following combat deployment, the Mi-8MTV-5 and Mi-8AMTSh helicopters can now transport 36 and 28 paratroopers respectively, up from the previous 24, while also extending their flight ranges to 190 and 90 kilometers [4].

In summary, airborne assault operations represent a highly adaptable and promising method of employing airborne forces. They enable the execution of rapid, high-impact missions by ground-based parachute or air assault units, including sudden operations that conventional forces may be unable to carry out in time. The continuous development of innovative tactical approaches tailored to the fast-paced nature of modern warfare, along with the application of mathematical



modeling for evaluating combat effectiveness, will significantly improve the flexibility and responsiveness of these forces in future conflicts [5].

Further research can be aimed at integrating artificial intelligence and automated control systems into the planning and conduct of combat operations of the Airborne Assault Troops.

REFERENCES

1. Vdovin, A.V. Development of the Theory of Combat Use of Airborne Assault Formations: Monograph. - Moscow: VUNC SV "OVA VS RF", 2017. - 150 p.
2. Zelenov, A.V. "Airborne Assault Operations in Modern Military Conflict and Prospects for Their Development" // Military Thought (Scientific Journal). - 2021. - No. 6. - P. 28–33.
3. Combat Experience of Airborne Troops: Textbook. - Moscow: VUNC SV "OVA VS RF", 2011. - P. 17–24.
4. Konovalov, I.A. "The Current State and Prospects for the Development of Russian Military Aviation" // Aviation and Cosmonautics Bulletin. - 2020. - No. 2. - P. 15-20.
5. Afanasyev, S.A., Lebedev, P.Yu. "Enhancing the Mobility of Airborne Troops Through Army Aviation Means" // Army Bulletin. — 2021. — No. 4. — P. 33–40.

Таттибек Самаев, докторант, доцент, полковник, ҚР Ұлттық қорғаныс университеті, Астана, Қазақстан

Мырзағали Дарбишев, магистрант, полковник, ҚР Ұлттық қорғаныс университеті, Астана, Қазақстан

ҚАЗІРГІ ӘСКЕРИ ҚАҚТЫҒЫСТАРДА ДЕСАНТТЫҚ- ШАБУЫЛДАУШЫ ӘСКЕРЛЕРДІ ҚОЛДАНУДЫҢ КЕЙБІР АСПЕКТІЛЕРІ

Аңдатпа. Мақалада жоғары динамикамен, асимметриялық қауіптермен және жоғары технологияларды кеңінен қолданумен сипатталатын заманауи әскери қақтығыстарда десанттық-шабуылдау әскерлерін қолдану ерекшеліктері зерттелген. Басты назар десанттық-шабуылдау әскерлерінің іс-қимылдарының тактикасы мен стратегиясын талдауға, оларды жауынгерлік қолданудың негізгі проблемаларын анықтауға, сондай-ақ оларды шешу бойынша ұсыныстарды әзірлеуге аударылады. Жұмыста негізгі нысандарды басып алу, маңызды аудандарды бақылауды қамтамасыз ету және жаудың артқы жағындағы әрекеттер сияқты стратегиялық маңызды міндеттерді орындауда десанттық-шабуылдаушы әскерлердің ұтқырлығының, жеделдігінің және әмбебаптығының рөлі зерттеледі. Тиімділігін арттыру



үшін жасанды интеллект және машиналық оқыту сияқты заманауи технологияларды қолдануға ерекше назар аударылады.

Зерттеудің негізі десанттық-шабуылдау әскерлерін қолданудың тарихи және заманауи тәжірибесі, сондай-ақ қазіргі заманғы сын-көтерлер жағдайында олардың жауынгерлік қабілетін арттыру жолдарын көрсететін жауынгерлік сценарийлерді модельдеу нәтижелері болып табылады.

Түйінді сөздер: Қазақстан Республикасы, Қарулы Күштер, десанттық-шабуылдау әскерлері, тактикалық әуе десанты, әскери қақтығыс, асимметриялық қақтығыстар.

Таттибек Самаев, докторант, доцент, полковник, Национальный университет обороны РК, Астана, Казахстан

Мырзагали Дарбишев, магистрант, полковник, Национальный университет обороны РК, Астана, Казахстан

НЕКОТОРЫЕ АСПЕКТЫ ПРИМЕНЕНИЯ ДЕСАНТНЫХ ВОЙСК В СОВРЕМЕННЫХ ВОЕННЫХ КОНФЛИКТАХ

Аннотация. В статье рассматриваются особенности применения десантных войск в современных военных конфликтах, которые характеризуются высокой динамикой, асимметричными угрозами и широким применением высоких технологий. Основное внимание уделяется анализу тактики и стратегии десантных войск, выявлению ключевых проблем их боевого применения, а также разработке рекомендаций по их решению. В статье рассматривается роль мобильности, эффективности и универсальности десантных войск при выполнении стратегически важных задач, таких как захват ключевых объектов, обеспечение контроля над важными направлениями и действия в тылу противника. Особый акцент сделан на использовании современных технологий, таких как искусственный интеллект и машинное обучение, для повышения эффективности боевых действий.

В основу исследования положен исторический и современный опыт применения десантных войск, а также результаты моделирования боевых сценариев, демонстрирующие пути повышения их боеспособности в условиях современных вызовов.

Ключевые слова: Республика Казахстан, Вооруженные Силы, морские десантные войска, тактический воздушный десант, военный конфликт, асимметричные конфликты.

Поступила: 14 июля 2025 года

Рецензирована: 18 августа 2025 года

Принята: 20 августа 2025 года