

THE IMPACT OF TECHNOLOGY ON MILITARY STRATEGY

Vice Admiral (ret) Engineer Ion Alexandru PLĂVICIOSU, PhD

Technology and military strategy

Since ancient times, starting from the primitive human socialization period, there have been disputes and fights between individuals, related initially to supremacy within the tribe, and later to the desire to monopolize better hunting or fishing grounds and pastures. In the beginning, the fights were based on physical force and the fighters' ability to use simple weapons. With the advance of civilization and development of the level of knowledge and productive capacities of the human tribes, the "weapons" as physical force and the abilities have been developed, supplemented by the use of some "extensions" (arrows, slingshots, spears, etc.) which allowed to neutralize fighters without direct contact.

From this point of view, no matter the reasons which have lead to wars (local, regional, global) throughout history, the strategies used have been conditioned by the destructive capacity of the weapons used against the living force and infrastructures of any type belonging to the enemy. As a result, the consequences of using ever improving war technique have increased with regard to human losses and destruction of infrastructure elements.

From the point of view of the military strategy, defined as planning action and waging the war, it is obvious that the main component elements such as: setting the objectives, preparing and drafting forces, maneuvering are conditioned by the amplitude and efficiency of the foreseen combat actions and by the technical level of the combat means utilized.

It is also obvious that as long as these means are superior to the enemy's, as performance on the battle field, this is a prerequisite for the success of the application of the strategic plans. In this context, the skilled use of the fighting