

Secret Intelligence Service

Room No. 15

Foreign Military Review

The conflict-ridden region of Kashmir, divided into Pakistani and Indian parts for almost 18 years - a smoldering hot spot - the Siachen Glacier.



Jammu and Kashmir. Border with China Khingan Siachen

During May and June 1996, the tension in the Siachen Glacier area reached the highest degree - Pakistani troops for more than 20 days tried unsuccessfully to capture several strategic positions of the Indian Army, located at an altitude of 6500 m.

November 1998. Two Pakistani soldiers killed in another attempt to capture the Indian army post south of the Siachen Glacier. In the ensuing firefight was wounded one of the Indian soldiers.

October 1998. Six Pakistani soldiers were killed during the attack on the position of Indian troops on the Line of Control in the Siachen glacier mountain area.

June 1999. A group of Pakistani soldiers tried to capture the strategically important Indian military post south of the Siachen glacier mountain. Defending his Indian special forces repelled the attack Pakistanis, 15 of them were killed in a fierce battle.

Siachen glacier high mountain is located in the junction of the borders of China, India and Pakistan in the Karakoram mountain range (the highest mountain in the Earth system - the Himalayas). The glacier covers an area of 3000 km² and extends over 75 km long and 4.8 km wide at a height of 4800 m above sea level. Last gives rise to many foreign military experts call itself an upstream Siachen arena of armed confrontation in the world.

Until 1983, neither Pakistan nor India has shown interest in this region - in wars in 1965 and 1971 on the glacier were observed fighting. In 1983, when the Indian military pitched there summer camp, Pakistan protested, in April 1984 the Indian armed forces carried out an operation Medhut (Cold instant messengers), during which the glacier was thrown through the air battalion and platoon for each of the two northern (relative to the Siachen) passes - Belafond (6160 m above sea level) and Sia (7300 m). Pakistan responded immediately so that no Indian units occupied the heights placed its units. Capturing key heights on the glacier, India was able to control the north-western part of Kashmir, including Karakorums-Kuyu highway passing through the Khunjerab Pass linking Pakistan and China.

During 1949, after the completion of the first Indo-Pakistan war, the region was determined cease-fire line, in 1972, after the Third War, it has been adjusted, confirmed by the warring parties and is named Line of Control on the maps, it ends at 80 km from territorial borders of China at around NJ9842. Since then, Islamabad is of the opinion that the line of demarcation should be continued in the north-east from this point to the Karakoram Pass, which would mean membership Glacier Pakistan. In turn, in Delhi believe that the line must follow to the north through the pass Guong (5640 m) and in the direction of Sia Chogori (8611 m) - the second mountain peak in the world, ie Siachen belongs to India. This contradiction defines the territorial dispute. Indian position is at an altitude 3700 - 5300 m, Pakistani much lower - from 2800 m, but there are posts and at elevations of 5300 m. In this region, the Indian 102nd Infantry Brigade opposed Pakistani 323rd Brigade Siachen. Conflict occurs in complex geographical conditions: temperature ranges from -40 ° C or lower in the areas surrounding the glacier, and to -60 ° C at the glacier, and at heights of 5 - 6 thousand m, even colder. Strong winds (up to 100-140 km / h) knocks a man down, tears tents, awnings. Blizzard last for three days, resulting in height drifts up to three meters. ATVs -

warring parties deployed only at the foot of the glacier. Impede their movement failures, high steepness of the slopes. Therefore, the machine overcomes 80 km 5 - 6 hours, and all-terrain vehicles column the same distance in 10 - 12 hours. The use of helicopters is also difficult: rarefied atmosphere, temperature and unpredictable gusts impair its ability to transfer of troops and cargo. At altitudes above 4500 m are used only light helicopters, such as Apuett that can deliver summer 40 kg mark 6100 m and 80 kg - in the winter. Movement on foot is carried out very slowly. Foreign sources - to overcome the 25 km at altitudes above 4200 m requires 5-6 days. 100 m band extends beyond 10 - 15 minutes with two-three minute rest 5 minutes after every motion. If an athlete-climber usually spends in a similar situation 8-10 days, the soldiers are on Siachene two - three months.

Adaptation is performed as follows. At a height of 3 - 3.5 thousand m. soldier is weak, then it rises to a height of 4 - 4.2 thousand m. For every 300 m rise in the day assigned to one night of rest. Normal practice is the rise of soldiers from the base camp to the observation post for two to three weeks. Before sending troops to the glacier has to pass special training requirement. Pakistan-administered Kashmir has camps in Astoria (training course for three to four months) and Dansum (4 months), where instructors are professional climbers. Extremely low temperatures reduce the effectiveness of the weapons, ammunition and accessories. Rarefied atmosphere affects the trajectory of mines, rockets and grenades, thereby reducing the precision aiming. At low temperatures, the characteristics of the biological changes occurring in human blood, many medications lose their properties and efficacy.

Over recent years, India and Pakistan did not stop to take diplomatic efforts to end the conflict at the mountain. And on the Line of Control in Kashmir now, these countries continue to increase military power. In the past, India and Pakistan faced three times in a fierce war (1947 - 1949, 1965 and 1971) that claimed the life of a total of about 40 thousand. The conflict between the two countries in the Kargil district of Kashmir, during the late 90's being referred to as the fourth Indo-Pakistan war. At this time, India considered possible military strikes on terrorist bases in 150 Pakistan-Kashmir areas in response to an attack by Islamic extremists in the parliament on December 13th. Although Indian military leaders believed that this preventive action would not lead to the emergence of a new full-scale war with Pakistan, such a possibility is not excluded - note.



Pakistani helicopter - background of the HPT Siachen



Prayer Pakistan on Siachene



Amphibious Base India Siachene



Monument to the Fallen in the Kshatriya Siachene. India. Siachen



Heads of both countries Siachene. Chief of Army Staff, General Ashfaq Parvez Kayani visit Siachen to personally oversee rescue operation launched at Gayari Sector 08/04/2012. The rescue operation underway to recover 139

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Adversitate. Custodi. Per Verum