

Russians are preparing for the exercise „Zapad 2021”

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On May 26-27, a high-ranking Russian official, Deputy Defense Minister of the Russian Federation, Lieutenant General Yunus-Bek Yevkurov visited Belarus.

He took part in the reconnaissance of the areas of the Russian-Belarusian strategic exercise “Zapad 2021”.

It was officially announced that the exercise itself will take place from 10 to 16 September. The leadership will be carried out by the chiefs of general staffs of the two countries.

The declared goal of the joint strategic exercise is to gain practice by command personnel of various levels in repelling aggression against the Union State.

Representatives of the Russian Federation and Belarus announce that “Zapad 2021” is exclusively defensive in nature.

In preparing the exercise, the experience of participation in armed conflicts of recent decades and changes in the forms and methods of training troops was used.

The exercise will be held at five Belarusian (Obuz-Lesnovsky, Brest, Domanovsky, Chepelevo and Ruzhansky) and nine Russian training grounds (Volsky, Dorogobuzh, Kirillovsky, Mulino, Strugi Krasnye, Khmelevka, Pogonovo, Dobrovolsky, Pravdinsky).

The participation of ships of the Baltic Fleet of the Russian Federation is planned, which in order to work out the tasks of the exercise should be redeployed to the southern part of the Baltic Sea and to the Gulf of Finland.

In total, about 200 thousand people, 80 aircraft and helicopters, up to 800 units of military equipment, of which

about 300 tanks, more than 200 guns and MLRS, as well as more than 10 ships, should take part in the exercise.

The CSTO member countries will send a contingent of up to 2,000 people.

With such a volume of exercises, the Russian side declares that it does not intend to violate the requirements of the Vienna Document and that 6,400 people will fall under its effect on the territory of the Russian Federation, and 6,300 people on the territory of Belarus. At the same time, a total of about 13,000 soldiers will be involved in Belarus, of which 2,500 are Russian.

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