

rupnikova linija

DOLINSKA ZAPORA PRED ZALIM LOGOM

Obrambna linija (Rupnikova linija) je zaradi razgibanega površja med alpskim svetom in morjem prečkala kar nekaj dolin, med drugim tudi Selško dolino, v kateri se trenutno nahajamo. Današnje stanje niti malo ne spominja na nekdanj izvedeno zaporo, saj so jo v večji meri odstranili takoj po porazu Kraljevine Jugoslavije v aprilu leta 1941.

Najdena fotografija (avtor neznan), je bila posneta tik pred ali celo med nemško – italijanskim napadom na ta del Jugoslavije leta 1941. Razsežnost zapore, ki je potekala skozi celotno dolino, je na fotografiji izjemno dobro vidna. Za celotno podobo zapore si moramo na obeh straneh ovir predstavljati še betonski utrdbi in posamezna strojnična gnezda. Omenjeni objekti stojijo še danes, a jih na fotografiji zaradi stojišča fotografa ni mogoče opaziti.

Dno ravne pregledne doline, ki se zaključuje s strmimi pobočji, daje braniteljem izrazito prednost. Struga reke Sore se nahaja ob robu doline, kjer je vzporedno po ozki terasi speljana cesta. Prečno na dolino in reko Soro je desni pritok Sore – Davščica, ki poteka po celotni širini doline. Potok Davščica je tako prva ovira, ki zapira dolino, nadgradili so jo še z jeklenimi in betonskimi ovirami (traverze/ježi). Vse ovire so bile med seboj povezane z jeklenicami (preprečeno oz. oteženo odstranjevanje ovir) in prepredene z bodečo žico (ustavljanje pehote). Za bolj uspešno oviranje oklepni enot sta bila zgrajena celo dva betonska bunkerja s protitankovsko oborožitvijo. Vsak na svoji strani doline sta tako pokrivala celotno območje ovir. Izdelana sta tako, da je vanju mogoče zapeljati premični top brez fiksne namestitve. Sporazumevanje med njima je bilo že v tistem času brezžično – s svetlobnimi znaki. Na obeh bunkerjih to prepoznamo po obliki majhnih odprtih, ki sta usmerjeni druga proti drugi.

Vojaška doktrina v tistem času je oklepne enote predvidela kot podporo pehoti – le-ta bi tvorila glavnino napadalnih sil. Številna samostojna strojnična gnezda in še drugi položaji v okolici zapore so pokrivali tako dolinsko dno kot strma pobočja in praznine med obrambnimi objekti. Ker pa je v dolini potekalo tudi vsakdanje življenje in promet po cesti, je bilo treba izdelati še cestno zaporo, ki je bila v mirnem času prehodna, ob morebitnem napadu pa bi jo bilo mogoče v trenutku zapreti.

Del teh zapornic je danes na tem razstavnem prostoru. Prvotno so bile vgrajene na desni strani ceste v smeri proti Zalemu Logu, tik ob skali (danes odrezana in ojačana s podpornim zidom zaradi širitve ceste). Na skali se je še ohranilo betonsko strojnično gnezdo, ki je varovalo dostop do zapornic. Tridimenzionalni model na tabli prikazuje celotno velikost zapornic, saj je ohranjen samo manjši del. Že med vojno in nato še po njej je bila obrambna linija "rudnik" materiala (železo, deske in orodje) za okoliško prebivalstvo.

VALLEY BLOCKADE BEFORE ZALI LOG

Owing to the diverse terrain between the Alpine region and the sea, the defence line (Rupnik Line) crossed quite a few valleys, including the Selška valley, which is where we are right now. The present situation does not even remotely resemble the once built barrier, because it was largely removed immediately after the defeat of the Kingdom of Yugoslavia in April 1941.

The photograph (by an unknown author) was taken just before or perhaps during the German Italian attack on this part of Yugoslavia in 1941. The size of the barrier that crossed the entire valley is well seen on the photo. But to get the full picture one must also imagine the concrete fortifications and individual machine-gun nests on both sides of the barrier. These structures still stand today, but are not seen on the photo because of the position of the photographer.

The bottom of the flat open valley, surrounded by steep slopes, gives the defenders a distinct advantage. The Sora river basin is situated at the edge of the valley, with the road running parallel to it on a narrow terrace. Perpendicularly to the valley and the river Sora is the right tributary of Sora – Davščica, which extends over the entire width of the valley. This makes the Davščica stream the first barrier that closes the valley, but it was further upgraded with steel and concrete barriers (crossbeams/gooseberry). All barriers were connected with wire ropes (preventing or obstructing removal of barriers) and crisscrossed with barbed wires (blocking the infantry). Additionally, two concrete bunkers with anti-tank weapons were built for further obstruction of armoured units. The bunkers overlooked the entire area of barriers, each on its side of the valley. The two structures also enabled mobile cannons without fixed placement to enter the valley. Communication between them was wireless even back then – with light signals. This is clearly seen on both bunkers by the shape of small openings facing each other.

The military doctrine in that period envisaged armoured units as support to the infantry – with the latter forming the majority of attack forces. Numerous independent machine-gun nests and also other positions around the barrier covered the valley bottom as well as steep slopes and empty spaces between the defence structures. But, because everyday life and traffic in the valley ran by road, it was also required to build a roadblock, which was passable in peaceful times, but that could be closed in an instant in case of an eventual attack.

A part of the roadblock is now at display. Originally, it was built on the right side of the road towards Zali Log, just along the rock (now cut and reinforced by a support wall due to the road widening). The machine-gun nest on the rock, which guarded access to the roadblock, has been preserved. The three-dimensional model on the board presents the full size of the roadblock, because only a smaller part is preserved. Already during the war and then after the war the defence line was the "treasure trove" of material (iron, boards and tools) for the local population.

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