

CAMPAIGN NEWS DIGEST

AUGUST 2008

UNMANNED RECONNAISSANCE

AN UPGRADED ROBOT SYSTEM will be used in both the Iraq and Afghanistan theatres later this year. The robot is the Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Unmanned Ground Vehicle (CUGV).

Until now, the CUGV was used by explosive ordnance units, but it was recently replaced by a newer model. The U.S. Department of Defence is fitting detectors onto the CUGVs so that they can be used in contaminated areas. The robot can now detect areas of contamination, map these areas, identify the type and level of danger, and inform the troops. It also has a camera system, so troops can observe what is happening inside contaminated areas.

This new technology allows reconnaissance teams to enter contaminated areas dressed appropriately for the specific hazard. They can also go directly to the marked areas that need to be investigated.

For example, the robot can identify chemicals such as ammonia, chlorine nerve and blister agents, and carbon monoxide. Additionally, it can measure oxygen levels, radiation rate, temperature and humidity.

OLYMPIC SECURITY FORCES

THE CHINESE MILITARY are making security preparations for the 2008 Olympic Games, which are due to take place in China from August 8th to 24th. The People's Armed Police will also be deployed to safeguard the games and deter acts of terrorism.

Beijing has based surface-to-air missiles and short-range air defence missiles around the Olympic sites. The system is utilized on both ships and ground-based vehicles.

The Snow Leopard Commando Unit will also be deployed for the games. This unit is typically employed for anti-terrorism and hostage rescue.

A flight brigade will monitor the Games from above with specially trained pilots. Helicopters equipped with cameras will be able to monitor several square kilometres.

Extreme security measures were also taken at the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens. Patriot air defence batteries were deployed around Olympic venues to protect the games.

JOINT EXERCISE ELITE 2008

ELECTRONIC WARFARE LIVE TRAINING EXERCISE ("ELITE") 2008 took place this month under the command and control of the German Air Force Command. The aim of the two-week joint exercise was to gather as much information as possible about electronic warfare. A total of 19 different nations of NATO, the European Union, and the Partnership for Peace Program. Participated, while Denmark, Estonia, Lithuania and Romania participated as observers. Over 1,400 servicemen exercised electronic combat between aircraft and ground-based air defence systems.

Each country contributed its own weapons systems to carry out the air operations. The main operations took place at the Heuberg Range, in Southern Germany, in the Swabian Mountains.

EUROMED PARTNERSHIP SUMMIT

THE NEW EURO-MEDITERRANEAN PARTNERSHIP was launched this month at a summit meeting in Paris. President Sarkozy met with leaders from the Mediterranean region and Europe for a series of discussions that were co-chaired by the Egyptian President Mubarak. A number of Arab heads of state as well as the Israeli prime minister gathered to participate in the summit meeting.

The new partnership aims to bring the Mediterranean region and Europe closer together politically, economically and culturally. The leaders agreed on a common declaration and projects for the partnership. Some of the projects discussed included infrastructure, transport, solar energy, and the establishment of a regional university. Shortly, the new partnership will decide where the secretariat will be located.

Pennell, John. Chemical robot ready for its in-theater debut, *Army News Service*, July 11, 2008

<http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/library/news/2008/07/mil-080711-arnews01.htm>

Minnick, Wendell. China's Security Forces Prepare for Olympics, *DefenseNews*, July 11, 2008

<http://www.defensenews.com/story.php?i=3622436&c=ASI&s=TOP>

Wing Heli sends A-109 heli's to exercise 'ELITE', *Mil.be Aircomponent*.

<http://www.mil.be/aircomp/subject/index.asp?LAN=en&FILE=&ID=1119&PAGE=38&MENU=0>

Bryant, Lisa. Mediterranean Countries Set up Partnership, *Voice of America*, July 13, 2008

<http://www.voanews.com/english/2008-07-13-voa20.cfm>

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AUGUST 2008

Student Worksheet

Task 1: pre-reading vocabulary

Before reading the articles, match the words on the left to the definitions on the right.

- | | | |
|----|---------------|--|
| 1 | unmanned | a) a source of danger |
| 2 | contaminated | b) to put into operation, to introduce |
| 3 | hazard | c) to make use of |
| 4 | to mark | d) to give goods, time money or effort in order to achieve something |
| 5 | to deter | e) something which has no staff or people present to operate it |
| 6 | to safeguard | f) the administrative department of a governmental organization |
| 7 | to employ | g) to determine the boundaries of an area on a map |
| 8 | venue | h) actions taken to prevent harm or secure good |
| 9 | to contribute | i) a place where events are held |
| 10 | to launch | j) something that is impure or unclean |
| 11 | secretariat | k) to prevent |

Task 2: comprehension check

Write short answers to the following questions:

- 1 What information can the robot give to the troops?
- 2 How do robots protect reconnaissance teams?
- 3 What security measures are the Chinese taking for the 2008 Olympic Games?
- 4 Why is the Snow Leopard Commando Unit being deployed for the games?
- 5 What was the objective of exercise Elite 2008?
- 6 What kind of training did the participants receive?
- 7 What is the objective of the Euro-Mediterranean partnership?
- 8 What was discussed at the meeting?

Task 3: discussion

The last story in this month's Campaign News Digest is the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership. You are representing your country at a summit meeting and you must decide which two projects are most important. Try to convince the other 'leaders' to agree with you. At the end of the discussion, you will ask have to vote.

Task 4: writing

The second article in this month's Campaign News Digest talks about security operations for the 2008 Olympic Games. Find out more about security operations the Chinese have set up in preparation for the games and summarize your findings in about 300 words. Use these websites to help you:

<http://www.defensenews.com/story.php?i=3622436&c=ASI&s=TOP>

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2008-07/08/content_8513245.htm .

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Teacher's Notes

Task 1: pre-reading vocabulary

Before reading the articles, match the words on the left to a definition on the right. Encourage students to try to deduce the meaning of the words from the context using clues from the text.

- | | | |
|----|----------------|--|
| 1 | unmanned | e) something which has no staff or people present to operate it |
| 2 | to contaminate | j) something that is impure or unclean |
| 3 | hazard | a) a source of danger |
| 4 | to mark | g) to determine the boundaries of an area on a map |
| 5 | to deter | k) to prevent actions from happening |
| 6 | to safeguard | h) actions taken to prevent harm or keep safe |
| 7 | to employ | c) to make use of |
| 8 | venue | i) a place where events are held |
| 9 | to contribute | d) to give goods, time money or effort in order to achieve something |
| 10 | to launch | b) to put into operation, to introduce |
| 11 | secretariat | f) the administrative department of a governmental organization |

Task 2: comprehension check: short answer questions

Write short answers to the following questions.

- 1 It can detect contaminated areas, map the areas, and identify the type of contamination and the level of danger.
- 2 Soldiers know where to go, how to dress, and they spend less time in the contaminated area.
- 3 They are deploying air defence systems and an anti-terrorism unit around the Olympic sites.
- 4 They are used to rescue hostages or in the event of terrorist attacks.
- 5 The exercise was held to exchange information about electronic warfare.
- 6 The participants were trained in electronic warfare in air operations.
- 7 The objective is to unite the partners politically, economically and culturally.
- 8 They agreed on a common declaration and decided on future projects for the partnership.

Task 3: discussion

This is a group role-play aimed to practise speaking in a group.

Tell students that they are heads of state from different countries in Europe and the Mediterranean region who are attending a Euro-Mediterranean summit meeting. The objective of the meeting is to decide which two projects are most important to undertake.

First, elicit ideas for Euro-Mediterranean Partnership projects until you have a list of 10 to 12 ideas written on the board. You can leave these written suggestions on the board for the student's reference. Examples might include: energy efficiency, promoting human rights, immigration and asylum, justice, freedom and security, migration, civil protection, consumer protection, communication, the Middle East peace process, innovation and technology, development and humanitarian aid, economic and monetary affairs, education and culture employment and social affairs, regional policy, multilingualism, trade, taxation and customs union, etc.

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Put students into groups of three or four. Tell them their task is to decide which two projects are the most important for the partnership to undertake. Ask them to first rank the projects in order of importance. Then each group must try to reach a consensus about the two most important projects so that they can submit their proposal to the 'summit' (the class). Tell them to be prepared to state and defend their proposals.

Once the individual groups have reached a consensus, ask each group to present their proposals to the summit. As a class, discuss the proposals and decide on a definitive proposal. Ask students to state and argue their positions in order to convince the others. At the end, ask all students to vote for one that is not their own to reach a consensus.

Choose one student to chair the discussion and tell them it is their responsibility to ensure each group is given an opportunity to present their ideas and to answer questions..

You may want to present or review strategies for interrupting, agreeing, disagreeing, giving opinion and suggesting before you start the discussions.

To extend this exercise, you could repeat the procedure, tasking the 'leaders' to decide on a geographical location for the secretariat.

To practice listening skills, students could listen to a podcast about the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership on the VOA website:

<http://www.voanews.com/english/2008-07-13-voa20.cfm>

Ask students to listen and try to add new information to what they have already read about and discussed.

If your students are interested in further information, they can visit these websites for further information about the partnership:

http://ec.europa.eu/external_relations/euromed/index_en.htm

http://ec.europa.eu/avservices/audio/audio_thematic_en.cfm

Task 4: writing

The aim of this activity is to practise writing a factual description. Ask students to look at these websites for ideas:

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2008-07/08/content_8513245.htm

<http://www.defensenews.com/story.php?i=3622436&c=ASI&s=TOP>

Then ask them to describe some of the security measures that will be taken at the 2008 Olympic Games.

If the Internet is not available in your classroom, access the websites before the lesson, print out the texts, and give each student a printout. Ask your students to take notes on the key information in the text, and to use their notes to write a summary (about 300 words) of the story in their own words.