

CAMPAIGN NEWS DIGEST

MAY 2008

EXERCISE ARABIAN SHARK

THE ROYAL BAHRAIN NAVY and coalition forces recently carried out a multilateral exercise in the North Arabian Sea, bringing together coalition and Bahraini naval ships.

Exercise Arabian Shark was led by Combined Task Force 152, which is currently commanded by Bahrain. This task force is responsible for conducting maritime security operations in the Persian Gulf.

The objective of the exercise was to build coalition interoperability in the region. Sailors from different countries and backgrounds shared information about anti-submarine warfare. In addition to submarine tracking, the navies conducted a close manoeuvring drill, and operated with helicopters.

A Bahraini commanding officer told reporters that these coalition exercises were important because it is difficult for any single navy to operate alone in the region. A multinational task force can operate more efficiently, but this requires training. The lessons learned from these training exercises can be used by the navies in future operations.

CRISIS MANAGEMENT EXERCISE

NATO conducted its fifteenth annual Crisis Management Exercise at NATO Headquarters this month. The exercise was planned by 26 NATO member countries and partners.

Civilians and international military staff participated in the exercise, and countries such as Israel and Morocco were represented for the first time. The objective of the exercise was to practise crisis management procedures.

This exercise was not live, so no forces were actually deployed. The scenario for the exercise was imaginary. Civilians and military staff practised crisis management procedures at a strategic political level, while remaining in their national capitals, or in NATO headquarters. The crisis simulated various security threats. Scenarios included multi-national peacekeeping operations, a humanitarian crisis, terrorism, and threats by one country against another.

EXERCISE TROPICAL STORM

SIX HUNDRED BRITISH INFANTRY SOLDIERS are spending five weeks in the jungle of Belize. British Army instructors and Belizean military experts are teaching the soldiers how to stay alive in the jungle. The jungle is hot and humid, and rich in vegetation, and soldiers are not used to these conditions.

Jungle warfare specialists are teaching the soldiers skills such as finding food and water resources, making fires, and avoiding dangerous jungle animals, such as snakes, scorpions, crocodiles, pumas and tarantulas. At the end of the programme, the Belize Army soldiers and the British soldiers will carry out an exercise to simulate a conflict situation in the jungle.

Last year, the soldiers worked in the Iraqi desert and travelled in armoured vehicles. Now, they have to get used to working in a very different situation. The aim of this exercise is to condition these soldiers for operations in the jungle, where they will have to travel on foot, and carry their weapons.

MANDATE EXTENDED

THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL have renewed their mandate to stop the spread of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons.

A special UN committee controls how weapons of mass destruction are protected, border security and law enforcement in all countries. The committee states that every country must have laws in place to prevent the spread of weapons of mass destruction. Moreover, countries are not allowed to help other countries develop, buy, manufacture or transport nuclear, chemical, or biological weapons.

The mandate was established in 2004, and has been extended for a further three years.

Coalition Exercise Builds Unity in the North Arabian Sea, *Navy NewsStand*, April 23, 2008.

<http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/library/news/2008/04/mil-080423-nns05.htm>

NATO Crisis Management Exercise, *NATO*, April 16-22, 2008.

<http://www.nato.int/docu/pr/2008/p08-053e.html>

Two LANCs Soldiers Get a Taste of Jungle Life, *Defence News*, April 23, 2008.

<http://www.mod.uk/DefenceInternet/DefenceNews/TrainingAndAdventure/2LancsSoldiersGetATasteOfJungleLife.htm>

Renewed UN mandate aims to stop spread of weapons of mass destruction, *UN News Centre*, April 25, 2008.

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=26469&Cr=nuclear&Cr1=>

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Student Worksheet

Task 1: pre-reading vocabulary

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

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| 1 maritime | a) to direct your actions toward an objective |
| 2 to track | b) an exercise where participants are physically present |
| 3 drill | c) to become physically fit for a new situation |
| 4 live | d) relating to the sea or navigation |
| 5 scenario | e) an ability that is learned |
| 6 threat | f) training soldiers in marching and using their weapons |
| 7 skill | g) to observe the moving path of a vehicle or vessel with special instruments |
| 8 to aim | h) a situation that could possibly happen |
| 9 to condition | i) a formal order |
| 10 mandate | j) a situation that could cause harm or danger |

Task 2: comprehension check

Decide if the following sentences are true or false. Rewrite the false sentences to make them true.

- 1 The Royal Bahraini Navy leads a combined task force.
- 2 The objective of exercise Arabian Shark was to search and destroy enemy submarines.
- 3 The NATO Crisis Management Exercise was carried out in a war zone.
- 4 The Crisis Management Exercise was planned by NATO members and partners.
- 5 The aim of Exercise Tropical Storm is to learn how to work with the Belize Army soldiers.
- 6 The soldiers learned how to use armoured vehicles in the jungle.
- 7 This renewed UN Mandate prohibits anti personnel mines.
- 8 No country can help another country to produce weapons of mass destruction.

Task 3: discussion

Three of the articles in this month's Campaign News Digest talk about training exercises, and each is in a different location.. Research and take notes on the climate of a country, and present your findings to the class Use this website to help you <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/>

Task 4: writing

The last article talks about the United Nations. Research an international organization and summarize the results in about 300 words. Describe the organization and why you think it is important. Use these websites to help you:

<http://www.mod.uk/DefenceInternet/AboutDefence/Organisation/KeyFactsAboutDefence/NorthAtlanticTreatyOrganisationnato.htm> (NATO)

<http://www.mod.uk/DefenceInternet/AboutDefence/Organisation/KeyFactsAboutDefence/EuropeanDefence.htm> (European Defence)

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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 maritime | d) relating to the sea or navigation |
| 2 to track | g) to observe the moving path of a vehicle or vessel with special instruments |
| 3 drill | f) training soldiers in marching and using their weapons |
| 4 live | b) an exercise where participants are physically present |
| 5 scenario | h) a situation that could possibly happen |
| 6 threat | j) a situation that could cause harm or danger |
| 7 skill | e) an ability that is learned |
| 8 to aim | a) to direct your actions toward an objective |
| 9 to condition | c) to become physically fit for a new situation |
| 10 mandate | i) a formal order |

Task 2: comprehension check: short answer questions

Decide if the following sentences are true or false. If they are false, rewrite the sentence so that it is true.

- 1 True
- 2 The objective of exercise Arabian Shark was to train coalition navies to work together.
- 3 The NATO Crisis Management Exercise was carried out at NATO HQ and the capital cities of participants.
- 4 True
- 5 The aim of Exercise Tropical Storm is to learn how to survive and how to fight in the jungle climate.
- 6 The soldiers learned survival skills such as how to find food and water, make fires, and avoid dangerous animals
- 7 This renewed UN Mandate prohibits the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.
- 8 True

Task 3: discussion

The aim of this activity is to use data and transfer the information into extended discourse.

As a lead-in, brainstorm different countries by playing the Geography Game. Students take turns naming countries from anywhere in the world. Each country chosen must begin with the same letter that ended the previous country name. Repetition is not allowed. Begin the game yourself with an arbitrary starting country. The game ends when a student is unable to continue. The game can also be played using cities of the world.

Ask students to access the website, choose a country, and click under the heading 'geography'. If the Internet is not available in your classroom, access the site before the lesson, print out several profiles, and give each student a printout of a profile. Ask students to take notes on the data provided under the headings 'terrain' and 'climate'. Then ask them to answer these questions:

- o Describe the climate in a region (example: tropical, including characteristics of a tropical climate)

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- Is this climate difficult to work in? Why? (it is hot, humid, and highly vegetated. Weapons may not function properly, etc.)
- What can we do to better survive in this climate? (drink a lot of water, wear insect repellent, use mosquito nets at night, etc.)

Ask each student to report their findings to the class. Encourage the other students to take part in the discussion about acclimatisation and survival skills.

After the individual presentations, close this activity by asking students to decide which climate would be the hardest climate to work in, giving reasons to support their choice.

Before students begin their individual work, it may be useful to present or review *to be used to*.

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://www.mod.uk/DefenceInternet/AboutDefence/Organisation/KeyFactsAboutDefence/UnitedNations.htm> (UN)

<http://www.mod.uk/DefenceInternet/AboutDefence/Organisation/KeyFactsAboutDefence/NorthAtlanticTreatyOrganisationnato.htm> (NATO)

<http://www.mod.uk/DefenceInternet/AboutDefence/Organisation/KeyFactsAboutDefence/EuropeanDefence.htm> (European Defence)

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

This exercise could be extended by directing students to this UN website:

<http://www.un.org/webcast/sc.html> **Security Council**

Ask them to watch and listen to the three-minute webcast of the UN Security Council meeting on April 25th addressing the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. Ask them to prepare an oral summary of the webcast for class.

For more advanced students, use this website for research:

http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/country_profiles/default.stm, (International Organisations)

If your students are interested in disarmament, there is an interactive timeline of historic disarmament treaties and agreements at this UN website:

<http://cyberschoolbus.un.org/dnp/sub2.asp?ipage=timeline>

Students can browse the timeline to learn about important disarmament and non-proliferation milestones from 1946 to the present.

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