

12-22 April 2010



BRILLIANT MARINER 2010

Train maritime and expeditionary forces of the NATO Response Force (NRF 15) and certify their level of preparation



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PART 1

Press release



Ref: MANW 2010/02

Allied Maritime Command Northwood



22 March 2010

NATO's Immediate 'Response Force' Conducts Maritime Exercise

London: NATO's Response Force (NRF) will conduct a maritime exercise in the Northern and Baltic Sea during April to ensure they are 'fully prepared' to respond, as required, to operations or crisis situations wherever in the world they may occur. The exercise, which is code-named Brilliant Mariner, will take place between 12 - 22 April 2010.

6,500 military personnel from 11 NATO nations (France as Maritime commander, Belgium, Denmark, Estonia, Germany, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Spain, UK and USA) will participate in the Brilliant Mariner exercise, together with one Partnership for Peace country (Sweden). The exercise will involve 40 warships (including an aircraft carrier, frigates, tankers and mine counter measure vessels), 4 submarines and 30 aircrafts.

Exercise Brilliant Mariner is coordinated by the staff of the Allied Maritime Command, Northwood, London, with a realistic exercise scenario presenting a number of challenges for the commanders at sea, including asymmetric threats, maritime security operations, embargo operations and terrorist incidents*.

Speaking about the exercise, NATO's maritime commander, Admiral Sir Trevor Soar commented "Exercise Brilliant Mariner is an opportunity to really put NATO forces through their paces. As well as operational training, an important aspect of the exercise is the humanitarian aid training that the forces will carry out. This will ensure that, if called, NATO forces can make a real difference in a crisis situation".

Rear-Admiral Jean-Louis Kerignard, commanding the French maritime force, will be conducting the exercise from the flagship FS Mistral : "As Maritime component commander during Exercise Brilliant Mariner, we will work closely with all the participating nations in order to certify our readiness for NRF15. The scenario we are going to deal with provides the naval units with a great opportunity to train with efficiency, in order to overcome the threats we are liable to face together".

Notes to editors:

1. The Allied Press Information Centre will be in Frederikshavn, Denmark from 13 – 23 April
2. Full details are available from Lt Cdr Jacqui Sherriff, Chief Public Affairs Officer, Allied Maritime Command, Northwood for this exercise. Tel +44 1923 956967 or email pio@manw.nato.int.

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PART 2

Presentation of exercise Brilliant Mariner

Aim of the exercise :

Train maritime and expeditionary forces of the NATO Response Force (NRF 15) and certify their level of preparation.

Date: from April 12th to 22nd, 2010.

12 nations compose this force :

Belgium, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom, the United States of America.

Germany and Denmark will be the host nations of this exercise which will take place in the North Sea. Sweden, which is not part of NATO, is invited.

Personnel and assets:

- 6,500 men
- 36 ships
- 4 submarines
- 30 aircrafts

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Scenario of the exercise:

The situation east of zone Cérasia has dramatically deteriorated to such an extent that the International Community reacts to avoid a total destabilization of the region.

The State of Kamon is currently pursuing aggressive policies aimed at taking the "Tori Pocket" from its neighbor Tytan. Meanwhile, armed militias secretly backed by the Kamoni government are carrying out a large ethnic cleansing campaign, causing significant movements of populations and the creation of a large number of refugee camps.

The United Nations have called for a cease-fire between the two countries and have asked NATO for reinforcements to enable a return to peace in the area. The NRF Commander has been entrusted with the deployment of an air-and-sea force in order to restore stability in the area of crisis.

Objective of the force :

Restore peace, security and stability in the area of crisis.

Under COMFRMARFOR's command, the air-and-sea component will deploy so as to control the maritime space, secure maritime communication channels and Tytan's main ports, protect the transportation of humanitarian supplies to displaced populations, prevent traffic of weapons to Kamon and enforce the cease-fire in the Tori Pocket.

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Brilliant Mariner Organization of the maritime force

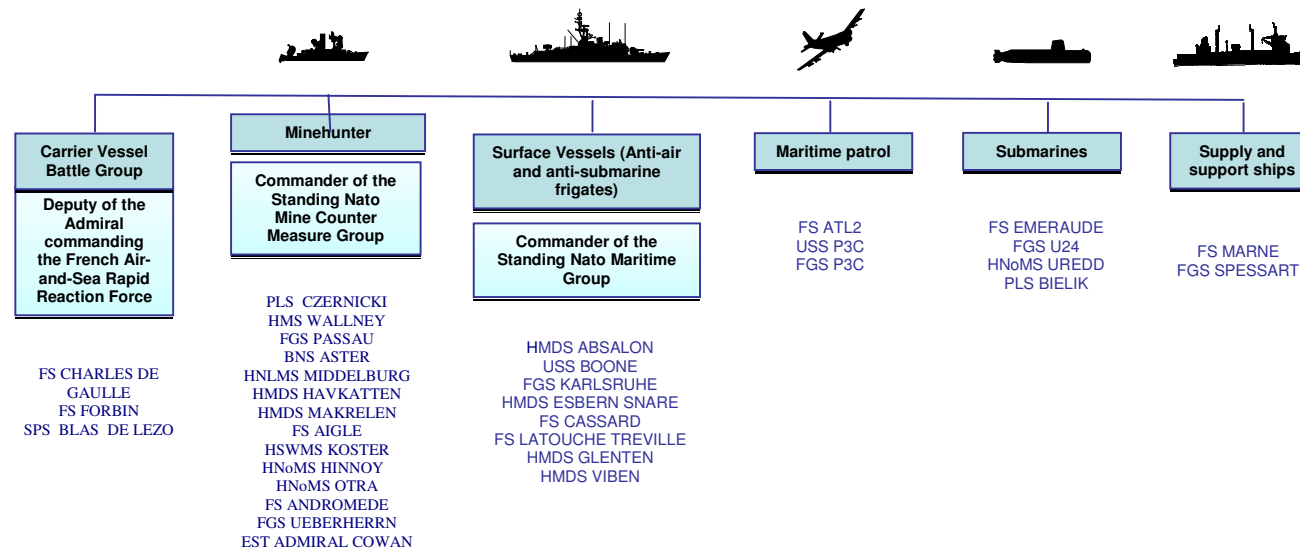


- | | | | |
|--|---------------------|--|----------------------|
| | Germany (FGS) | | France (FS) |
| | Belgium (BNS) | | Norway (HNoMS) |
| | Denmark (HMDS) | | Poland (PLS) |
| | Spain (SPS) | | United Kingdom (HMS) |
| | United States (USS) | | Sweden (HSWMS) |
| | Netherlands (HNLMS) | | Estonia (EST) |



Commander of the Maritime Force
Admiral commanding the French Air-and-Sea Rapid Reaction Force

FS MISTRAL



SITFOR (situational force or opposing force)

HNoMS FRIDTJOF NANSEN
HNoMS HELGE INGSTAD
HNoMS VALKYRIEN
FGS HYANE
FGS WIESEL
FGS TEGERNSEE
HSWMS HARNOSAND
HSWMS HELSINBORG

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PARTICIPATING FORCES BY COUNTRY

Country	Ships	Submarines	Aircraft
Belgium	Mine hunter Aster		
Denmark	Mine hunter Havkatten Mine hunter Makrelen Force projection ship Absalon Force projection ship Esbern Snare Patrol vessel Glenten Patrol vessel Viben		
Estonia	Mine hunter Kontradmiraal Cowan		
France	Flagship Mistral Aircraft carrier Charles de Gaulle Frigate Forbin (type Horizon) Frigate Cassard Frigate La Touche-Treville Mine hunter Aigle Mine hunter Andromède Command and supply ship Marne	SNA Emeraude	12 Super Étendard Modernisé 7 Rafale 2 Hawkeye 1 maritime patrol aircraft ATL 2 Dauphin Alouette III Puma Gazelle
Germany	Replenishment ship Tegernsee Patrol guided missiles Wiesel Patrol guided missiles Hyäne Mine hunter Passau Frigate Karlsruhe Command and supply ship Spessart Mine hunter Ueberherrn	U 24	1 maritime patrol aircraft P3C
Norway	Mine hunter Hinnoy Mine hunter Otra Frigate Fridtjof Nansen Frigate Helge Ingstad Support ship Valyirien	Uredd	
Poland	Mine hunter Kontradmiraal Czernicki	SSK Bielik	
Spain	Frigate Blas de Lezo		
Sweden	Mine hunter Koster Frigate Härnösand Frigate Helsingborg		
United Kingdom	Mine hunter Wallney		
United States of America	Frigate Boone		1 maritime patrol aircraft P3C
Total	36	4	30

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PART 3

The Nato Response Force (NRF)

CHRONOLOGY

The launching of Nato Response Force (NRF) was decided at the Prague Summit in November 2002. The NRF Concept was endorsed in April 2003.

In July 2009, the structures and size of the NRF underwent major changes.

In operations pertaining to article 5 (collective defense) or in non-article 5 crisis response operations (such as evacuation operations and disaster consequence management support, including chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear events), the objective of the NRF is to provide:

- A deployable joint support element (DJSE) manned with about 210 highly trained, specific personnel, ready to intervene within 48 hours.
- An Immediate Response Force (IRF) that can number up to 13,000 men.
- Supplementary teams, dubbed Response Force Pools (RFP), when required.

FRANCE'S CONTRIBUTION

France has supported and significantly contributed to the NRF from the outset.

It set up rapid response HQs dedicated to the command of the NRF components:

- The French Rapid Reaction Corps in Lille for the land component;
- The French Maritime Force Battle Staff (FRMARFOR), based in Toulon, for the air-and-sea component;
- The Air Defense and Air Operations Command CDAOA, based in Taverny, for the air component.
- Operations specials command.

France is willing to sustain capabilities of planning and conducting large allied operations at the military level. It features among the leading European nations capable of conducting significant multinational operations, as part of NATO or the EU.

Whenever France is in charge of a NRF component, it brings a major contribution, in order to ensure the operational consistency of the force it commands. Regarding other rotations, our contribution is determined on a case-by-case basis, according to the operational and training constraints.

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FICHE 4

The French Maritime High Readiness Force (HRF-(M))

The French Maritime High Readiness Force was launched in 2004, within the framework of France's participation in the NRF. Commanded by COMFRMARFOR, it is identified as FRMARFOR by analogy with its allied equivalents, namely UKMARFOR (UK), ITMARFOR (Italy), SPMARFOR (Spain) and also STRIKEFORNATO, NATO's US-led HQs in Naples.

Set up in line with NATO standards, FRMARFOR was certified in early 2006, after multinational exercise Trident d'Or 05.

Its mission consists in providing tactical HQs capable of planning and conducting air-and-sea forces within national, European or NATO frameworks.

In operational terms, it must be capable of **simultaneously providing three tactical HQs** to plan and conduct:

- An air-and-sea component staff (*MCC*) or an amphibious task force (*CATF*);
 - A carrier vessel battle group (CVBG) (with aircraft carrier Charles de Gaulle);
 - A mine warfare force (*MCM TA*).
- FRMARFOR took on the command of the NRF 10 air-and-sea component on 1st January 2008 for a six-month rotation, after its readiness was certified during exercise Noble Midas 07 in the Adriatic Sea and exercise Steadfast Jaw at the end of 2007.
 - FRMARFOR is currently in charge of the amphibious component of NRF 14, for which its readiness was tested aboard amphibious assault ship Mistral during exercise Loyal Midas in late 2009.
 - FRMARFOR is to be awarded another certification during exercise Brilliant Mariner, in order to take on the Maritime Component Command of NRF 15 from July 2010 onwards.

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The French Maritime High Readiness Force Battle Staff is headquartered in Toulon. Its staff comprises 109 personnel, including two general officers, 5 Army officers and 1 Air Force officer. It also musters 10 officers from allied Navies, a ratio that is gradually increasing. If required, it can receive national or NATO reinforcements for deployable HQs.

The French Maritime High Readiness Force Battle Staff is special in that it can be simultaneously used:

- **As part of the NATO Response Force and its successive rotations;**
- **For conducting major national or allied maritime exercises;**
- **For conducting deployed forces in operations on the ground.**

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PART 5 Biography of Admiral Jean-Louis Kérignard

**Commanding officer of the French Maritime High
Readiness Force**



Born in Toulon in February 1954, Rear Admiral Jean-Louis Kérignard graduated from the École Navale in 1975.

After post-graduating in onboard detection systems, he became chief of operations on escort vessel Henry based in French Polynesia. He then joined the Mediterranean Squadron as chief of the detection service aboard anti-air frigate Duquesne.

Selected as Training Officer for cadets, he served aboard training ship Jeanne d'Arc, before being assigned to the command of escort vessel Jean-Moulin based in Brest, Brittany.

After graduating from the Command and Staff College in Italy, he was appointed chief of operations aboard anti-air frigate Jean-Bart and participated in naval missions as part of the conflict in the former Yugoslavia during two years. In 1995, he took the head of the Navy's training centre's combat systems and operations command in Saint Mandrier. He then moved to Paris as a member of the permanent warship tests commission, where he oversaw aircraft carrier Charles de Gaulle and La Fayette class frigates prior to their commissioning. Subsequently, he was entrusted with the command of frigate Cassard and took part in operation Enduring Freedom in protection of aircraft carrier Charles de Gaulle.

After graduating from the College for Security and Defense (IHEDN) in Italy, he was appointed to the French HRF and as the next chief of staff of this force, directly under the authority of the commander-in-chief of the Naval Action Force (AFLAN) in Toulon.

In the summer of 2005, he integrated NATO Transformation Command, where he was in charge of capacity development and research and technology as deputy chief of staff during two years.

Appointed rear admiral, he became Deputy COMFRMARFOR on 1st September 2007 and conducted two multinational operations in the Indian Ocean and Eastern Mediterranean. Two years later, he was assigned at the command of the French Maritime High Readiness Force.

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PART 6

Biography of COM SNMG1 Commodore Christian Rune



Commodore Christian Rune was born on 26 April 1962. He first joined the Royal Danish Navy as a conscript in 1982, and in 1985 he entered the officer training programme.

After graduation from the Naval Academy in 1989 he served on the NIELS JUEL-class Frigates, and his service included participation in Operation Desert Storm deployment with NATO's Standing Naval Force Atlantic (STANAVFORLANT). On completion of the Junior Staff Course and the Principal Warfare Officers Course he was in 1994 promoted to Lieutenant Commander and returned to the NIELS JUEL-class, this time as Operations Officer.

This tour included two deployments with STANAVFORLANT, one of which in Operation Sharp Guard.

In 1997 he joined the staff of STANAVFORLANT as the Staff Communications Officer. After a year on the staff he returned to Denmark to complete his Joint Staff Course at the Danish Defence College.

Commodore Rune was in 2000 promoted to Commander and posted to the Danish Defence Command where he worked with NATO force planning and NATO force structure issues. In 2002 he was appointed Staff Operations Officer on the staff of Danish Task Group. In 2003 he took a position as Head of Section in the NATO Office of the Ministry of Defence.

Early 2005 Commodore Rune was reassigned to the NIELS JUEL-class Frigates, and this time his tour included service as Commanding Officer and as Division Commander. In 2006 Commodore Rune took a position as Senior Adviser in the Security and Defence Section of the Prime Minister's Office. In 2008 he joined the Naval Command College at the U.S. Naval War College in Newport, Rhode Island, and after graduation in 2009 he returned to Denmark to commence preparations for assuming command of Standing NATO Maritime Group 1.

Commodore Rune resides in Copenhagen with his wife, Charlotte, their daughter, Anna (2000), and their son, Laurits (2005). Commodore Rune enjoys reading, photography, and riding his bicycle.

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PART 7 Presentation of the main ships of the force

AMPHIBIOUS ASSAULT SHIP MISTRAL

Task group :
Flagship



Mission: be at the heart of sea-to-land operations

Capable of carrying up to 16 heavy helicopters, 4 LCMs or future LCATs, the Mistral provides land forces with projection assets. This type of ship can carry up to 450 infantrymen and over 80 light armored vehicles. It also has a 900m² hospital, with 2 surgical units, one radiology room, telemedicine capabilities and 70 hospital beds.

Operations

During the summer of 2006, the Mistral was deployed off Lebanon's coast as part of operation Baliste to evacuate almost 5,000 persons and deliver 1,500 humanitarian pallet-boxes. The ship was also deployed in the Atlantic Ocean to recover the victims and debris of Air France A330 flight AF 447 that disappeared on 1st June 2009.

Specifications

Ship's crew: 20 officers, 129 NCOs, 28 ranks-and-files
Mistral is commanded by Navy Captain Didier Piaton
Length: 199 meters
Width: 32 meters
Draft: 6.20 meters
Displacement: 16,500 tons
Maximum speed: 19 knots
Flight deck: 5,200 m²

Aircraft carrier Charles de Gaulle

Task group : CVBG



Mission: air coverage of a theatre of operations at land and at sea

Capable of carrying up to 40 armed aircraft, including Rafales, Hawkeyes and Super Etendards. The Charles de Gaulle also takes part in the country's nuclear deterrence. It has an onboard hospital made of 2 operating rooms, a burn unit, a radiology unit, a biology lab and 2 decontamination rooms in the event of chemical weapon threats.

Operations

The Charles de Gaulle carried out its first operation, Héraclès, in 2002, taking part in the fight against terror during seven months. Its planes conducted almost 800 missions above Afghanistan. The aircraft carrier was also deployed between 2004 and 2007 for missions Agapanthe, to support forces deployed in Afghanistan. It was under maintenance and repair for the first time from September 2007 to November 2008, which further developed its capabilities.

Specifications

Ship's crew: 1,950 persons (including the CVBG).
Aircraft-carrier is commanded by Navy Captain Jean-Philippe Rolland
Length: 261.5 meters
Beam: 64.40 meters
Draft: 12.50 meters
Displacement: 40,600 tons
Speed: 27 knots
Flight deck: 12,000 m²

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SUPPORT AND SUPPLY SHIP KONTRADMIRAL XAWERY CZERNICKI

Task group : Minehunter

Mission: logistic support to ships at sea

Kontradmirał Xawery Czernicki is a logistic support and supply ship (fuel, ammunition, supplies, medical equipment...). It has a 150 tons of freight transport capacity, namely it can carry up to 10 containers or 4 containers and 6 vehicles. It is also used as an intelligence collection ship and has a landing platform for helicopters.



Operations

In 2002, the Polish frigate Kontradmirał Xawery Czernicki joined the support group of the 5th U.S. fleet in the Persian Gulf. The ship led operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom Operation, during which it delivered over 350 tons of humanitarian freight to the Iraqi populations, in cooperation with the US and Australian Navies. In 2008, the frigate was modernized to ensure the command of SNMCMG1.

Specifications

Crew: 59 persons including 8 officers.
Displacement: 2,380 tons
Length: 73.80 meters
Width: 13.80 meters
Draft: 4.20 meters
Maximum speed: 13 knots

COMMAND AND SUPPLY SHIP MARNE

Task group : Command and supply ship

Mission: logistic support to ships at sea

The main mission of command and supply ship Marne consists in refuelling (oil fuel, diesel oil, jet fuel), as well as in delivering distilled water, ammunition, drugs and spare equipment for the units deployed. It can simultaneously refuel three ships. Command and supply ship Marne also has a helicopter landing platform.



Operations

In 2008, France took for the fifth time the head of Task Force 150, which is deployed as part of Operation Enduring Freedom (CTF-150). Enduring Freedom is a fight against terror operation launched in the wake of the 9/11 attacks. Rear Admiral Jean-Louis Kérignard was at the head of the operation from Command and supply ship Marne during four months.

Specifications

Crew: 10 officers, 100 NCOs and 50 rank-and-files
Command and supply ship Marne is commanded by Captain Delaroche.
Length: 157.20 meters
Width: 21.20 meters
Draft: 8.65 meters
Displacement: 17,800 tons
Maximum speed: 19 knots

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FORCE PROJECTION SHIP ABSALON

Task group : Anti-air, anti-submarine frigate

Mission:

Force projection ship Absalon is in charge of amphibious transport and landing missions. Absalon can carry up to 46 vehicles or 12 tanks or 1,700 tons of freight. It can also carry out missions of operational transport, humanitarian actions, evacuation of citizens and logistic support.

Operations

Up to March 2009, Absalon has taken part to multinational operations against piracy in the Gulf of Aden. Then, the force projection ship took over command of TF 508 of NATO in January 2010 (against piracy).

Specifications

Crew : 38 officers and NCOs and 82 ranks-and-files

Force projection ship Absalon is commanded by Captain Dan B Termansen.

Length : 137 meters

Width : 29.50 meters

Draft: 6.30 meters

Displacement: 6,300 tons

Maximum speed: 23 knots



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