

GLOBAL OUTREACH



STANDING NATO MARITIME GROUP 1





Jaap De Hoop Scheffer
NATO Secretary General

NATO's Bucharest Summit Declaration provided the higher level Corporate Governance which initiated the planning for the 2009 Standing NATO Maritime Group One (SNMG1) deployment to South East Asia. The use of maritime forces provides an over the horizon capability which can be deployed worldwide within international waters and remain self sustaining for extended periods of time.



NATO's policy of outreach through partnerships, dialogue, and cooperation is an essential part of the Alliance's purpose and tasks. The Alliance places a high value on its expanding and varied relationships with other partners across the globe. NATO objectives in these relationships include support for operations, security cooperation, and enhanced common understanding to advance shared security interests and democratic values. NATO has made substantial progress in building political dialogue and developing individual Tailored Cooperation Packages with a number of these countries. NATO particularly welcomes the significant contribution by Australia, Japan, New Zealand and Singapore to NATO led efforts in Afghanistan.

The North Atlantic Council highly values the contributions that its partners are making to NATO's missions and operations. Seventeen nations outside the Alliance are contributing forces to operations and missions and many others provide different forms of support. NATO will continue to strive to promote greater interoperability between its forces and those of partner nations; to further enhance information sharing and consultations with nations contributing to NATO led operations.



Objectives Operation Pearl

The principle objective of NATO's deployment is to learn more from each other in order to improve mutual knowledge and understanding, maximise interaction, promote co-operation and interoperability with the nations that will be visited.

During the first stage of the deployment, SNMG1 will operate in waters, in which the international community is taking part in the protection of UN's World Food Program Mission to Somalia and in countering piracy threats in the Gulf of Aden and the coast lines of Somalia. As these missions are either under UN mandate or supported by a UN resolution, it is essential for NATO to cooperate with every country that shares the common values of the UN Charter.



Admiral Sir Mark Stanhope
Commander Allied Maritime
Component Command,
Northwood

Admiral Sir Mark Stanhope, Commander Allied Maritime Component Command, Northwood, said "We are seeing a worrying trend of threats to maritime security in the 21st Century. Ships carrying basic food supplies and merchant vessels are a target for pirates, and last year's events in Mumbai were caused by terrorists gaining access to India from the sea. NATO maritime forces have a crucial role to play in countering threats by assisting in building maritime situational awareness and acting upon specific elements of that threat."

During the second stage, SNMG1 will sail in the northern part of the Indian Ocean. This area is of high world wide strategic value as it includes important Sea Lanes of Communications, vital for the world's economy and the international efforts in Afghanistan. In addition, as the success in Afghanistan



is closely linked to the successful fight against terrorism, which is threatening peace and stability around the globe, SNMG1 will demonstrate NATO's ability and determination to ensure the free flow of supplies for this mission.

In the subsequent stages, the deployment will allow for many opportunities to interact with countries along the planned route. SNMG1 will offer a variety of activities, including port calls, workshops, exchange of personnel and common exercises promoting Maritime Situational Awareness. Depending on the level of ambition of the nations that will be visited, SNMG1 is prepared to put all of these activities into practice.

There is a opportunity for nations involved to take advantage of the deployment to discuss common interests and the potential for future military cooperation, in order to learn from one another and improve readiness to stand together against threats that have a global dimension.





The Standing NATO Maritime Group 1 (SNMG1) is one of four immediate maritime reaction forces. It is a Multinational seagoing force, on task continuously, giving NATO the ability to respond quickly as the spearhead of the NRF, and with the flexibility to promote NATO's interest anywhere in the world. The Force, previously known as Standing Naval Force Atlantic and Standing NATO Response Force Maritime Group 1, was officially renamed Standing NATO Maritime Group 1 in 2006.

SNMG1's history starts back in the sixties, when it was proposed that a NATO Anti-Submarine Warfare Task Group be formed.



In early 1965 Canada, The Netherlands, the United Kingdom and the United States responded by each committing one ship for a five month series of exercises entitled MATCHMAKER I. When it proved successful, it was followed by MATCHMAKER II in 1966 and MATCHMAKER III in 1967.

The success of the MATCHMAKER squadron led to the approval in mid-December 1967 of the permanent STANAVFORLANT by the Defence Planning Committee of the North Atlantic Council. The Supreme Allied Commander Atlantic (SACLANT) was authorised to activate and operate the force shortly afterwards.

STANAVFORLANT came into being on 13 January 1968 in a short ceremony at Portland, UK. Initial participants included HMS Brighton, HNLMS Holland, HNOMS Narvik and USS Holder, augmented in March 1968 by HCMS Gatineau and FGS Koeln.

Since commissioning, some 160,000 men and women have served onboard 800 ships representing Alliance countries. Each year the force cruises more than 50,000 miles, participating in a series of scheduled NATO and national exercises designed to test readiness, foster interoperability and serve as the embodiment of the "Trans-Atlantic Link".

SNMG 1 is composed of destroyer or frigate class ships drawn from navies of member countries. Ships from Canada, Germany, The Netherlands, The United Kingdom and The United States form the permanent memberships of the force. They are joined periodically by naval units from Belgium, Denmark, Norway, Poland, Portugal and Spain.

PORTUGUESE DEPUTY NAVAL COMMANDER AND FLOTILLA COMMANDER

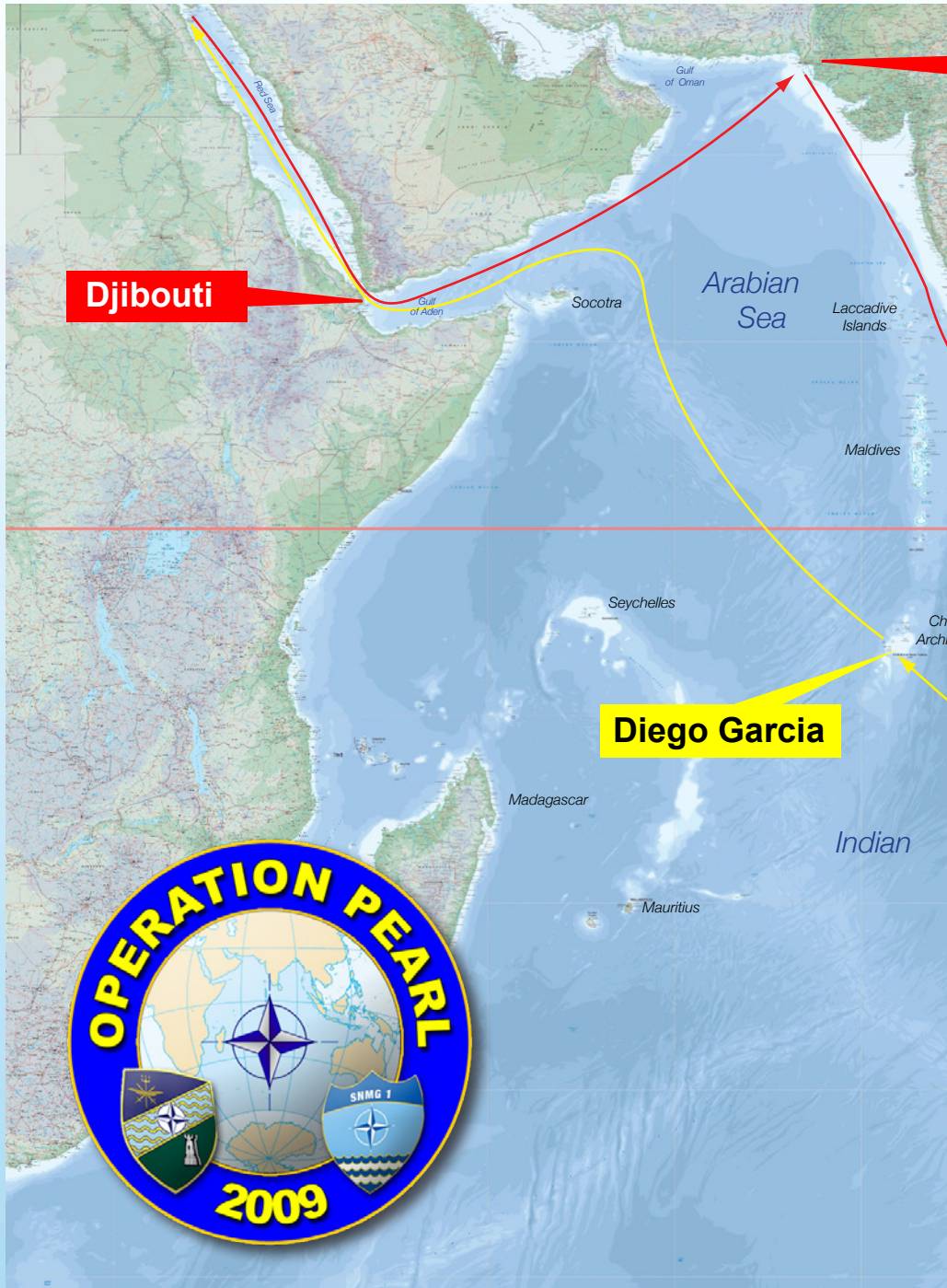
Rear-Admiral José Domingos Pereira da Cunha commands SNMG1 and is embarked in the flagship NRP CORTE REAL. Prior to taking command of SNMG1 he served as the commander of the Portuguese Flotilla and Deputy Naval Commander, after completion of the Joint staff Course. Previously he was the Commander of the Ocean Escorts Squadron in June, together with the Portuguese Naval Task Group.

During a busy career afloat, he has been Executive Officer of NRP João Roby, & NRP Corte-Real and Commanding Officer of NRP Cisne, NRP Quanza & NRP Vasco da Gama. Under his command, he has completed Operational Sea Training in Plymouth, then immediately sailed for operational tasking assigned to STANAVFORLANT tour on 2002-03. As flagship and Group Commander, he participated in Operation Active Endeavour in the East Mediterranean and Strait of Gibraltar. A stalwart of STANAVFORLANT he has previous service in 1985, 1992 and during the Operation Sharp Guard (in the Adriatic) in 1995/96.



**Rear-Admiral
José Domingos Pereira da Cunha
Commander SNMG1**

"Global security in and piracy off the Horn of Africa are issues that affect all NATO nations", said SNMG1 Commander, Rear Admiral Pereira da Cunha "The sailors of SNMG1 are very proud to have the opportunity to travel beyond NATO's traditional areas of responsibility and improve our situational awareness in these critical regions."





Operation Pearl

A force of NATO ships will make a historic 14,320 nm, 117 day, deployment to South East Asia and Australia from March to July 2009 as part of NATO's commitment to reach outside its traditional boundaries.



The 2009 deployment will include conducting counter piracy operations off the Horn of Africa, a region that has seen increasing incidents in recent months, which are continuing to destabilise the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia and bring misery and poverty to millions of African people. During this phase the presence of a NATO force will make a real difference to security in the region, and enhance the efforts of the European Union, deterring criminal groups and enabling NATO maritime commanders to compile a picture of maritime activity.



In May, the Force will visit Singapore, paying the first ever NATO force visit to South East Asia. The ships will also participate in the biennial IMDEX, the only dedicated maritime defence exhibition serving the Asia-Pacific region. The next phase of the deployment will include a visit to Perth and exercises with the Australian Navy, before returning to the Mediterranean in early July via the Gulf of Aden and a further period in support for allied forces in these troubled waters.



One of the fundamental reasons for the deployment is to increase interoperability between NATO and similarly minded countries around the globe. 2008 saw an unprecedented international maritime effort expended off the Somali coastline with warships from many nations arriving to provide escort for ships carrying vital humanitarian aid and to counter the growing menace of piracy. Greater interoperability will bring more reward in the future.



Participating Vessels in Operation Pearl



NRP CORTE REAL

The flag ship of SNMG1, the NRP Corte Real, a Vasco da Gama class frigate fitted with Harpoon, Sea Sparrow, 100mm gun, torpedo systems and capable to operate two Lynx helicopters. She has a displacement of 3200 tons and is 115 meters long with a maximum speed of 32 knots. Portugal regularly contributes to the NATO Standing Forces.

HMCS WINNIPEG

Designed to fulfill multiple warfare roles, HMCS Winnipeg is fitted with weaponry for Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW), Anti-Surface Warfare (ASUW) and Anti-Air Warfare (AAW). The design of the CPFs combines a versatile weapons and sensor package with a state of the art damage and machinery control system, making the class one of the most advanced warship designs in the world.



SPS BLAS DE LEZO

The Álvaro de Bazán class are a new class of Aegis combat system-equipped air defense frigates entering service with the Spanish Navy. The SPS Blas de Lezo is a guided missile frigate, has a displacement of 6250 tons and is 147meter long. The ship utilize weapons technology allowing them to track hundreds of airborne targets simultaneously as part of its air defense network.



FGS SPESSART

The German Navy Rhine Class Replenishment Tanker, FGS Spessart will support SNMG1 throughout the deployment, ensuring that the Force has sufficient fuel and provisions to sustain operations far from home for long periods of time. She has a displacement of 14,169 tonnes and is 427ft (130,5m) long.

USS HALYBURTON

USS Halyburton is a multi-mission platform capable of performing a variety of roles ranging from convoy escort to air, surface and undersea warfare. She has two LM2500 gas turbine engines capable of sustaining speeds in excess of 28 knots which are controlled by state-of-the-art computers resulting in a "ready to go" status in less than 10 minutes.



HNLMS DE ZEVEN PROVINCIEËN

HNLMS De Zeven Provinciën is a state of the art air defence and command frigate in the Royal Netherlands Navy. Her stealth like construction with no right angles make her less detectable by radar. She is a very capable anti-air warfare unit with an impressive array of Command and Control equipment, fit for a CTG staff.

FGS EMDEN

Like the Brandenburg-class frigates, the Bremen class frigates are high performance vessels. Their main tasks, are anti-submarine and anti-surface warfare. The Sea Lynx shipborne helicopter is employed in anti-submarine operations, and also in long-range sea surveillance and anti-surface warfare operations.



Global Outreach

Today's security challenges are global, extending beyond the traditional geography NATO alliance. In recognising this, NATO has decided to broaden international cooperation through partnerships with the wider international community. This inclusive approach aims to involve all the major players including non-governmental organisations and relevant local bodies.

NATO's partnership with non-NATO countries started in 1991 following the end of the cold war. The aim of this Partnership for Peace (PfP) initiative was to promote peace and stability in the Euro-Atlantic region.

NATO has now established further partnership programs such as the MED Dialogue (MD) for the Mediterranean region and the Istanbul Cooperation Initiative (ICI) for the Middle East. All initiatives share the same goal of fostering mutual understanding in order to contribute towards global and regional security through dialogue and practical cooperation. Today, NATO nations successfully cooperate with almost 40 countries worldwide in tackling common security challenges.

The current threats that the world is facing are terrorism, piracy, proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, human and drug trafficking. Nations can benefit by working together against these threats, all of which have a maritime aspect; naval forces have a significant role in achieving world wide security, capable of long range, self-sustaining deployments within the world's international waters.

This year, to broaden awareness, one of NATO's Standing Naval Forces will deploy into the Indian Ocean and South East Asia. With this deployment, NATO hopes to enhance the dialogue with the nations visited and to demonstrate its ability to deploy maritime forces beyond NATO's traditional area of operations.

IMDEX ASIA 2009

INTERNATIONAL MARITIME DEFENCE EXHIBITION & CONFERENCE

12 - 14 MAY 2009 • SINGAPORE EXPO

IMDEX Asia, the only dedicated international maritime defence show serving the Asia-Pacific region, returns to the Singapore Expo from 12 – 14 May 2009 with the promise of another bumper event.

This biennial defence exhibition offers a one-stop opportunity to keep abreast of the latest maritime defence technologies, platform designs and technology developments.

The Event comprise four inter-related events - Exhibition, Conference, VIP Delegations Programme and Visiting Warships - and has established a reputation within the maritime defence industry as being a 'must attend' show.

For more information, please visit : **www.imdexasia.com**.





For more information please contact :

Public Affairs Office
Allied Maritime Component Command Headquarters
Northwood HA6 3HP. United Kingdom

Tel: +44(0) 1923 956763
Fax: +44(0) 1923 956762
Email: pio@manw.nato.int
Website: www.manw.nato.int