EU NAVFOR forces pirates to abandon attack on cargo

A successful operation conducted by EU Naval Force and NATO counter piracy warships saved 14 Indian sailors from pirates on 6 June. The pirates, who took control of the Indian cargo ship on 5 June in the Gulf of Aden, abandoned the attack shortly after the HSwMS Carlskrona (EUNAVFOR) and the HNLMS Van Speijk (NATO) closed in.

This type of cargo vessel, known as a ‘dhow’, has been targeted by pirates in the past and used to attack passing merchant ships far out at sea.

The crew of the Indian dhow sent out an alert, stating that they were under attack from 12 armed pirates. Royal Swedish Navy warship, HSwMS Carlskrona responded to the alert and arrived on the scene as darkness fell.

As the helicopter from HSwMS Carlskrona overflew the scene, the pirates, under increasing military pressure, forced the Indian dhow close to the Somali coast in order to abandon the vessel under the screen of night. Shortly after, the Indian cargo reported to the EU Naval Force that all pirates had left their ship and that none of their crew members were injured.

EU Naval Force Operation Commander, Rear Admiral Bob Tarrant, stated: “What is important is that fourteen Indian sailors are now safe and able to return to their families, after what must have been a terrifying ordeal. This latest attack once again shows that the threat from piracy is real. We must

EDAS : Closing current and future capability gaps

Cyberspace can be described as the fifth dimension of warfare, equally critical to military operations as land, sea, air and space. Results of a recently presented landscaping study of the European Defence Agency (EDA) show a mixed picture with respect to military cyber defence capabilities on national and European level. The study recommends strengthening cooperation, exchange of information and proposes avenues for pragmatic Pooling & Sharing of some cyber defence capabilities. The study supports the relevance of the cyber defence activities launched by the EDA in the areas of cyber training ranges and deployable situational awareness kits for CSDP missions.

To better assess future European capability needs, the Agency organised a first war game on future trends in the EU framework. Twenty-five military and civilian experts from the Member States and EU bodies crosschecked existing and planned military capabilities against the threats and challenges described in four generic scenarios. This will allow them to gain experience in order to identify decisive points and possible measures to take. Most importantly they will be able to identify EU long-term capability trends in order to make the necessary decisions on capability development in a timely fashion. The final results of the war game will be presented to Member States in autumn 2013.

EUCAP NESTOR organises Senior Maritime Course:

The EU mission EUCAP NESTOR organised a pilot course from 28 May to 6 June, which brought together key leaders of developing maritime security agencies from across Somalia’s national and state administrations.

Twelve participants from Somalia participated in the course, among them, the Deputy Commander of the Somali Navy and Coast Guard, the Head of Coast Guard from Somaliland and a member of the office of the Puntland President.

Fort de 715 hommes, le bataillon « Waraba » (« les lions » en langue bambara) est composé de trois compagnies d’infanterie et d’unités d’appui spécialisées dans le domaine de l’arme blindée cavalerie, de l’artillerie et du génie. Après un cycle d’instruction portant sur les fondamentaux du combat d’infanterie, le bataillon a reçu une instruction spécialisée (tireurs d’élite, renseignement, commando, génie, logistique) de même qu’une formation relative au droit humanitaire international, à la protection des civils et aux droits de l’homme. Le second bataillon des forces armées maliennes destiné à être formé par EUTM doit arriver avant la fin juin au camp de Koulikoro.

EUSEC soutient la dynamisation de la logistique militaire en RDC

A travers une quinzaine de séminaires organisés depuis mai sur tout le territoire de la RDC, EUSEC a remis à niveau 577 cadres logistiques des Forces armées (FARDC) sur la doctrine, ainsi que sur la réglementation et les procédures récemment adoptées en matière logistique. Cette formation contribue d’ores et déjà à améliorer et uniformiser les procédures dans toute la chaîne logistique, en attendant la réouverture d’une véritable Ecole Logistique pour les FARDC, prévue pour 2014.

EUPOL RD Congo: formation des unités de maintien de l’ordre de la police nationale

Des unités de maintien de l’ordre de la Police Nationale Congolaise basées à Kinshasa ont fini une formation de maintien et de rétablissement de l’ordre public le 30 juin, organisée avec l’appui de la mission EUPOL RD Congo.

L’objectif principal de ce stage destiné à quelques 500 éléments était de vérifier et de renforcer les connaissances techniques des différentes unités, tout en soulignant l’importance du respect des droits de l’homme dans les actions d’intervention menées par la police.

EUAVSEC: South Sudan to deploy 50 Diplomatic Protection police at Juba airport

In its effort to improve security at Juba International Airport, South Sudan will deploy 50 police officers from the Diplomatic Protection Unit of the South Sudanese police at the airport. The police officers who had undergone a one week course from 27-31 May on basic aviation security organised by the EU Aviation Security Mission (EUAVSEC) were passed out a graduation ceremony held at the airport on 3 June. The Minister for Interior, Hon. Gen Alison Manani Magaya presented the graduation certificates to the police officers.

EUPOL COPPS: Palestinian Police completes IT infrastructure project

The Palestinian Civil Police (PCP) announced on 6 June the completion of a $ 12.7 million (€ 9.5 million) information and communications systems infrastructure development project, supported by EUPOL COPPS, to upgrade their operational and administrative capabilities.

The project has been implemented by the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS). “Significant support has also been provided through EUPOL COPPS which has, from the onset of this project and through its daily advice and coordinating role, once more demonstrated its commitment to the Palestinian Civil Police”, Mr. David Geer, Deputy EU Representative, in East Jerusalem said. The 5-year project which included centralised information, radio, data and telephone systems. It allows police districts to be continuously connected with their headquarters. The project will enhance the police service through better interconnectivity between districts, monitoring of activities in real time and an increased transparency as well as standardisation of procedures.

Upcoming activities:

13 June: HR/VP Ashton visits EU Satellite Centre, Madrid
24-25 June: Foreign Affairs Council / General Affairs Council

Posts in CSDP Missions

EUAVSEC SOUTH SUDAN (deadline 28 June 2013)
EUPOL RD CONGO (deadline 28 June 2013)
EULEX KOSOVO (deadline 26 June 2013)
EUPOL AFGHANISTAN (deadline 21 June 2013)
EUPOL COPPS (deadline 21 June 2013)
EUMM Georgia (deadline 21 June 2013)