

News Release



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NATO Minehunters join Danish Navy Exercise

NATO's Minehunters joined units from the Danish and German navies to conduct warfare exercises in Danish territorial Water.

The exercise, organised by the Royal Danish Navy ran for three days from 8th – 10th March and provided an excellent opportunity for the Group to develop a broad range of warfare skills in preparation for forthcoming exercises and operations.

The main aim for the group was to further develop operational capability across the various warfare spheres whilst conducting a mine countermeasures exercise in the challenging environment of Danish waters.

Unfavourable conditions forced the Group to work hard to complete their assigned tasks but this was achieved and a number of exercise mines were located and recovered.

SNMCMG1 (Standing NATO Mine Countermeasures Group 1) detached from the main exercise group and began their transit to Gdansk, Poland in the early hours of 11th March. Shortly afterwards, they were joined by the German Minehunter FGS Passau.

Standing NATO Mine Countermeasures Group 1
Safeguarding our Seaways

FGS Passau together with the other Minehunters will conduct Group training, operational and international exercises in the forthcoming weeks. Their first undertaking will be Polish Route Survey Operations during which SNMCMG1 will operate alongside four Polish Minehunters. The exercise starts today when the NATO group meets up with the Polish units in the Bay of Gdansk.

Notes to editors

1. Exercise BUT – AUT began on departure from Copenhagen on 8th March. The NATO group were joined by Danish minehunters HDMS Makrelen and HDMS Havkatten as well as the German minehunters FGS Siegburg, FGS Sulzbach-Rosenberg and FGS Datteln.
2. The Group's involvement in various exercises and operations are crucial in maintaining the high readiness required of a Standing NATO Mine Countermeasures Force.