

SNMCMG1 HOSTS MEDIA DAY

SNMCMG1, together with SNMCMG2, commenced Historical Ordnance Disposal Operations, Baye de Somme, on Monday 17 May in the vicinity of Dieppe, France. This operation will make a valuable contribution towards ridding the area of historical ordnance remaining from WWI and WWII. The operation provided an ideal opportunity to present both MCM Groups to the media, whilst explaining the importance of our task and operations. The press day was conducted on Thursday 20 May 2010 onboard two SNMCMG1 units; the Flag Ship; ORP Kontradmirał Xawery CZERNICKI; and the Belgian minehunter; BNS ASTER.

7 press representatives, from 5 agencies, were picked up in Dieppe harbour by Rhib on the morning of the 20 May 2010. After embarking in ORP CZERNICKI, the Flag Ship proceeded to an operating area to rendezvous with the minehunter BNS ASTER. During the transit, journalists had an opportunity to view the SNMCMG1 flag ship and interview both Commander SNMCMG1 (Cdr Krzysztof Rybak) and Commander SNMCMG2 (Capt Patrizio Rapalino).

All press were transferred to BNS ASTER; where it was explained how a countermining operation is conducted. Footage of Remotely Operated Vehicles (SEAFOX I) in action, sonar operators and the mine warfare officer was gathered. The media representatives also interviewed the Commanding Officer of BNS ASTER, Cdr Luc Van Tricht.