

News Release



**Allied Maritime Command
Headquarters Northwood**



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NATO SHIPS ARRIVE IN CANADIAN WATERS

NATO's Standing Maritime Group One (SNMG1) was joined by HMCS TORONTO as they arrived in St. John's, Newfoundland on Friday 28 May.

SNMG1 has sailed across the Atlantic to Canadian waters in order to take part in the Canadian exercise Halcyon RV and the International Fleet Review in Halifax and other celebrations of the centennial of the Canadian Navy.

The Halcyon RV exercise will focus on developing the core tactical skills and tasks of the NATO command staff and the ships in the force.

Commodore Christian Rune (Royal Danish Navy), Commander of SNMG1 said "I am looking very much forward to visit Canada with the Standing NATO Maritime Group One and to exercise together with the Canadian Navy and other forces. It is a great opportunity to train and keep my NATO force on its toes. Additionally, the Canadians have produced a remarkable programme celebrating the centennial of the Canadian Navy".

As well as visiting St. John's, SNMG1 will also visit Quebec City and Halifax during their deployment to Canada. SNMG1 will leave Canadian waters on 02 July.

Standing NATO Maritime Group 1 (SNMG1)

Notes to editors

1. Earlier this year, SNMG1 was deployed off the Horn of Africa for Operation Ocean Shield which is NATO's counter piracy operation. It also participated in NATO's certification exercise of the NATO Response Force "Exercise Brilliant Mariner 10" in German, Danish and Norwegian waters.

2. Presently SNMG1 consists of four ships:
 - HDMS ABSALON (flagship), Danish Multipurpose Ship
 - FGS KARLSRUHE, German type 122 class Frigate
 - USS BOONE, US Oliver Hazard Perry class Frigate
 - FGS SPESSART, German Rhön class tanker
 - SNMG 1 will be joined by HMCS TORONTO, Halifax class frigate while visiting Canada.

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