

DANEX 2010

“The war has begun ... On Sunday, 22nd of August, at 4:00 AM Polish destroyer ORP ‘Mewa’ was struck by waterborne improvised explosive device. Two other ships being in the vicinity rushed to help. One of them took the defective unit on tow, and arriving on scene ORP ‘Admiral Xawery Czernicki’ provided necessary medical help for injured crewmen.”
This is how the active phase of Danex 2010 exercise started out. Almost 30 ships from 12 countries have been preparing for worse-case scenario at sea since last Monday (16th of August).

Firefighting drills, damage control, defending against air and waterborne attacks was the essence of the first week of Danex 2010. Much more complex scenario-based operation has just begun. The international coalition of forces set up by the UN Security Council resolution will do its best to prevent conflict escalation and hopefully bringing it to an end. The exercise is now being conducted not only at sea, but at ground and from the air as well. This is why the cooperation between different kinds of armed forces is crucial and is a subject to evaluation.

DANEX 2010 is annual exercise prepared by Royal Danish Navy and conducted in the Danish Straits. This year’s exercise involves nearly 30 ships from 12 countries. Standing NATO Mine Countermeasures Group One (SNMCMG1) and four other units from Poland (ORP "Czajka"), Germany (FGS "Ensdorf") and Denmark (HDMS "Makrelen" and "Havkatten) have formed a group of ships responsible for mine clearance in disputed waters and therefore allowing passage to the other coalition ships. This group of eleven ships is now under command of Polish Navy officer (Commander SNMCMG1) - Capt. Krzysztof Jan Rybak .

The scenario for DANEX 2010 is entirely fictitious although there are similarities with present and future areas of naval operations. It has been designed to support the exercise aims and objectives. For the benefit of the players, countries named Centralia, Poorland, Mainlandia, Southwestland and Whiteland have been created.