

OPERATIONS NEWSLETTER

Apr 2022

No. 16

Spain leads NATO's Air Policing mission in the Baltics

International Military Agenda



Spanish Joint Staff Hosts the 2022 bilateral conference on training and exercises with the United States of America

The Bilateral Training and Exercise Conference with the United States (BTEC), hosted by Joint Staff's Force Development Division (DIVDEF) along with the U.S. Section Permanent Committee, was held in Madrid.

Representatives from the main Units and Commands Headquarters of the United States and Spanish Armed Forces, attended the conference.



ESPS 'Serviola' hosts the first high level event between the European Union and Nigeria

Offshore patrol vessel 'Serviola' hosted for three days, several events in the port of Lagos, and also in the programme of exercises at sea along with Italian frigate 'Rizzo' and other units of the Nigerian Navy.

The strategic interest of the Gulf of Guinea for the EU and, in particular, for Spain, along with the increase in piracy actions, including the kidnapping of crew members, has prompted the EU to intensify its attention to this maritime area of interest.





eAP South (Bulgaria)



Baltic Air Policing

ESP Detachment 'Strela' successfully completes the enhanced Air Policing mission in Bulgaria

Spanish Air Force's Detachment 'Strela', deployed at Graf Ignatievo AFB, within NATO's enhanced Air Policing (eAP) south, has completed its mission in Bulgaria. The four Eurofighter 'Typhoon' and the 130 airmen that made up the detachment, belongs to the 14th Wing, located in Los Llanos AFB, (Albacete).

This deployment was part of Spain's compliance with its international commitments, and for the defence and deterrence of the Allied nations.

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<u>The Spanish Air Force takes over the command of the</u> <u>Baltic Air Policing, operating from Šiauliai AFB in</u> Lithuania

Tactical Air Detachment 'Vilkas', make up from the Air Force's 12th Wing, set off a new policing mission over the Alliance's airspace by deploying eight EF-18 aircraft to Lithuania.

Spanish EF-18's are tasked with intercepting and identifying civil or military aircraft that do not comply with international flight regulations, and approach Alliance airspace, without being properly identified by air traffic control systems.

SNMCMG-2



ESPS 'Meteoro', SNMCMG-2 flagship, keeps leading this NATO naval group in the Mediterranean Sea

Spain's Defence Staff Headquarters has multiple channels to disseminate StratCom. One of them is its own Youtube channel, where everyone can get an approach to all operations where the Spanish Armed Forces are involved in.

In this video, edited by the EMAD's StratCom Office, you can watch selected footages of the Spanish vessel's security team fast-roping from a helicopter and conducting a shooting drill at sea, on board the SNMCMG-2 flagship.





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EUTM - RCA



EUNAVFOR 'ATALANTA'

<u>The Spanish EUTM RCA XIII contingent conducts a</u> medical emergency response exercise in Bangui

Camp Moana, Headquarters of the European Union Training Mission in the Central African Republic (EUTM RCA), witnessed a drill where the Medical Emergency Response Team (MERT) was activated. This unit is normally made up of Serbian medical personnel.

This activity is part of the training cycle of the EUTM RCA, which is a non-executive EU operation, launched in 2016 at the request of the Central African government.

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<u>Spanish frigate 'Canarias' assists and hauls a</u> Yemeni dhow to Somalia's territorial waters

ESPS 'Canarias', has hauled to the Somali port of Bossaso the dhow 'HUSSAM 3' which had been experiencing thruster issues for two days. The Spanish vessel detected a dhow jelbut contact type and conducted an approach to the boat; verifying that the crew were making distress signals calling for help, with cloths and flags, from the boat.

After reporting this incident, the vessel was hauled to the port of Bossaso and transferred to the Somali maritime police.

DAT 'Marfil'



<u>Spanish DAT 'Marfil' builds a water well for</u> <u>Paule Lapique school in Sangué (Senegal)</u>

This well is part of the Spanish contingent's Civil-Military Cooperation project (CIMIC). It will provide potable water to Paule Lapique school. The drilled well and the full support installion will also be used within the agricultural training workshop.

During the inauguration ceremony in Sangué, the Minister of Defence, Margarita Robles, highlighted this event addressing a few words, by telephone, to the attendees.



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UNIFIL (Lebanon)

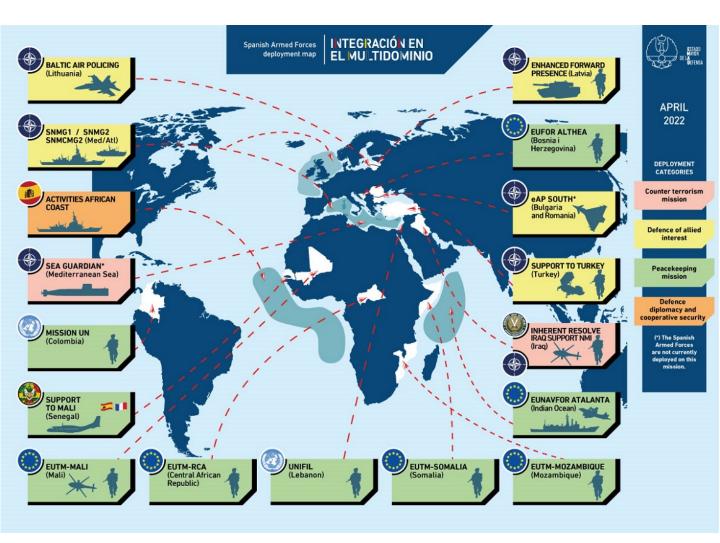


<u>Major general Lázaro Sáenz pays first visit to the</u> Spanish contingent at 'Miguel de Cervantes' Base

UNIFIL's Force Commander, major general Aroldo Lázaro Sáenz visited the Sector East HQ at 'Miguel de Cervantes' base, for the very first time, since he took over as Force Commander and Head of the UNIFIL Mission, last February.

General Lázaro was briefed on the UNIFIL's Sector East mission and, among other topics, he learnt about the organisation, religious and political situation in the area.

Spanish Armed Forces Deployment Map



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