

PURPOSE

Module for Command, Leadership and Management in a Maritime Context, "Exercise Espadon" at the French Naval Academy.

ATTACHED DOC

Briefing Format / Maritime Leadership Tasks.

MODULE "EXERCISE ESPADON / SWORDFISH"

1. PURPOSE OF THE WHOLE MODULE

The objective during the training that Exercise Espadon gives, is to acquaint our cadets with a practical training scenario within which they can command a small team (8-12) in a maritime environment with a full asymmetric threat so as to fully prepare them for what they will discover in the Fleet.

This module allows cadets:

- *to apply a method of planning and briefing into a practical scenario (NATO Sequence of Orders);*
- *work in a complex environment with multiple threats and mission types ;*
- *Reinforce their knowledge of a "brigade de protection/Ship's Protection Force";*
- *Health and Safety in the operational working environment;*
- *Use of arms with respect to the National Rules of Engagement.*

The module "Espadon" is fully adapted to the requirements of the French Fleet in specific, and in particular the standards for Junior Officers entering the Fleet.

2. CONTENT OF THE MODULE

The module "Espadon" is made of two parts : the Briefing of the Operations during which the cadets are given a full Command Brief (Situation, Intelligence, Tactical/strategic manoeuvres etc...) after the half day briefing of operations, conduct of compliant and non-compliant boardings they commence the practical application of Leadership learnt during previous modules. During the practical phase they have also the opportunity to be assessed on their management of disaster relief and boarding operations.

- Theoretical content (briefings) – 4 hours;
- The exercise unfolding within the coastal bays of Brittany and lasting a total of four days and 3 nights;
- Every cadet takes command of the team and maritime assets during four hours;
- A working day for the students will begin at 0530am and finish at 0100am, allowing enough sleep to safely conduct navigation, however being tired enough to give the Directing Staff an appreciation of their leadership capability in a stressful and tiring environment.

This course module usually takes place in April or June. However, it is conceivable for the module to be run throughout the year, with the only constraint being the sea

state around the harbour and bays that the exercise is conducted.

This exercise is delivered in French however can be easily adapted to cater for teams of English, Italians, Spanish and Germans thanks to foreign officers stationed at the French Naval Academy.

Country	Institution	Module	ECTS
		Maritime Leadership	2.0

Service	<p style="text-align: center;">Minimum Qualification for Lecturers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Officers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ French and English Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) Level B1 or NATO STANAG Level 2NATO STANAG Level 2222 ○ Must have completed an Understudy Package at the French Naval Academy
Languages	
Mainly Navy	
English, French ¹	

Prerequisites for international participants	Goal of the Module
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • French or English: Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) Level B1 or NATO STANAG Level 2, • To have conducted previous leadership basic level exercises in their academy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reinforcement of planning and briefing techniques in a practical maritime scenario • Working in high threat high pressure environment • Increase practical knowledge of a Ship's Protection Force" • Knowledge of Health and Safety in the operational environment. • Practical application of National Rules of Engagement.

Learning outcomes	Know-ledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knows briefing techniques. • Knows commandments for maritime associated tasking. • Masters the TTP specific to maritime associated tasking.
	Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is able to analyse, synthesize, anticipate. evaluate and make sound judgements with initiative and creativity in a maritime environment. • Is capable of managing operations efficiently in a maritime environment. • Develops a plan to maximise force protection. • Develops a basic plan for disaster relief operations.
	Compe- tences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actively enforces and promotes the respect of LOAC and IHL and respects the RoE. • Actively enforces and promotes IMO (International Maritime Organisation) regulations. • Understands the course of action of the higher command level when it comes to the decision of using non-lethal or lethal means.

1 **Remark:** If the Module or parts of the Module are conducted in French language, international participants are to be informed 3 months in advance.

Every year the French Naval Academy organises a high level Command, Leadership and Management Exercise.

During four days, Naval Officer cadets take part in this exercise which is the final phase in the practical leadership development of a cadet at Ecole navale.

This advanced training program, “in-the-field leadership” is the opportunity for young officers to implement their leadership skills as well as their STCW95 training into practice.

The exercise stands out as it bases the emphasis on time constraints which are given for the act of command, preparing missions, dispatching roles within teams, managing assets (ensuring the safety of equipment, personnel and craft).

The is also the opportunity to coordinate the various groups at a more strategic level and battling unexpected events during course of the missions.

Espadon is essentially a maritime and amphibious exercise. The team and crews act within the framework of the operational scenario and must complete tasking and missions as directed by the director of exercise (Direx).The cadets find themselves commanding one after the other, in situations of fatigue, stress and pressure.

The exercise has been running actively for over 15 years and evolving each year of its existence in coordination with the British Naval Academy.

The 2010 exercise was made up of around 84 cadets from numerous European countries including France and the United States. The 2011 Espadon will see an influx in foreign participants including Russian, American, British, German, Polish, Italian and Spanish cadets.

The exercise is open to only serving military members.

All briefings and missions are detailed in French however can be translated into English, Italian, Spanish and German.

The exercise is organised by the Military and Commandment Training Wing of the French naval Academy.

CC Bernard Nineven
Director of Military Training
School naval academy

THEME OF THE EXERCICE

OPERATION ESPADON

SYNOPSIS

Crozoland is a small-size State set on the Crozon Peninsula with a population of 50,000.

It used to be French-ruled before it became independent in 1986; it has remained under French protectorate ever since. Its economy mainly relies on agriculture and fishing ; its capital city is Crozon.

Crozoland is ruled by an interim government headed by President Clark. Warlords head local tribes and have been fighting over the region for years. One of them has recently shown readiness to lead a rebellion.

Since the government is unable to enforce its authority or to have laws obeyed, Crozoland has been plagued by a significant smuggling issue. The Crozolandish government has taken –insufficient - measures to put an end to the trafficking of kerbalt, an ore mined in neighbouring Ouzégan and Mor Izel. According to intelligence gathered, kerbalt is allegedly smuggled *via* Crozoland to be shipped aboard merchant vessels waiting along the coast.

It is worth noting that hurricane Hector struck the region last week and wreaked havoc upon the remaining facilities of this frail State. An aerial reconnaissance mission has revealed large damage as both road and railroad networks have been severely stricken and a large number of State-run buildings have been destroyed. Gas, water and electricity supply is, at best, disrupted.

The United Nations (UN) is considering setting up a humanitarian operation, but the political situation and the smuggling issues with neighbouring Ouzégan and Mor Izel would require sending a stabilisation and peace-maintaining force to back up already-deployed Non-Governmental Organisations (ONGs).

Maintaining peace and stability in this region is paramount to France as some 800 French nationals live there. The French government has therefore decided to send an amphibious Task Group – TG 601.03 - off Crozoland and in the South of the country – the peninsula - to help the local government and the NGOs manage the humanitarian crisis and solve the ensuing political turmoil.

ANNEX I

MISSION THEMES FOR EXERCISE ESPADON

MISSION A

Theme : Intelligence gathering on enemy forces.

Location : Village of Kertanguy.

Situation : The Lanvéoc Militia is suspected of conducting atrocities in the region. The Militia has created a death squad to conduct executions, robberies and hijacking of important shipments.

The Head Quarters wishes to engage the death squads in order to protect the local population, however, it requires solid proof of the atrocities in order to act within its ROE. The bodies of the executed civilians should be located in a field near the village.

Enemy Forces : pedestrian patrols, maybe motorized.

Friendly forces : nothing planned for the current time period.

Mission : Gather intel on the possible activities of the militia in the field nr Kertanguy.

Execution :

1st Action On : infiltrate the zone discretely and in total security from the beach 1 km north of Kertanguy.

2nd Action On : conduct surveillance of the field.

C2 :

Frequencies / call signs remain unchanged.

ROE : Inherent right of self defense iaw National ROE.

Identification/authentication : daily changing authentication codes.

MISSION B

Theme : Reccé and control a site for amphibious insertion.

Location : Pen-ar-vir.

Situation : In order to protect the ex-pats currently residing in Crozoland, and due to a severe threat made by the local warlords to an impending attack, the French government has decided to evacuate them. The TG 601.01 has been given the mission to plan and roll out the evacuation operation, transporting the ex-pats to a local green zone. There is a zone situated to the west of Pen-ar-vir which should allow for a green zone to be setup.

Enemy forces : Pedestrian patrols between kertanguy and pen-ar-vir.

Friendly forces : You are the advanced forces, you will be followed into the zone by a 2nd wave of troops.

Mission : Reccé and control the beach situated to the west of Pen-ar-vir in order to support the 2nd wave.

Execution

1st Actions on : Reccé the beach situated to the west of pen-ar-vir.

2nd Actions on : Control the zone in order for the 2nd wave to conduct amphibious insertion and re-embark on the beaching craft in total security.

C2 :

Beach must be secured with firing arcs to 180°.

The 2nd Wave will operate under your orders for landings.

Withdrawal of 2nd wave will also fall under your orders.

Frequencies / call signs remain unchanged.

ROE : Inherent right of self defense iaw National ROE.

Identification/authentication : daily changing authentication codes.

MISSION C

Theme : Amphibious infiltration and reconnaissance of an itinerary.

Location : Pen Ar Vir.

Situation : In order to protect the ex-pats currently residing in Crozoland, and due to a severe threat made by the local warlords to an impending attack, the French government has decided to evacuate them. The TG 601.01 has been given the mission to plan and roll out the evacuation operation, transporting the ex-pats to a local green zone. There is a zone situated to the west of Pen-ar-vir which should allow for a green zone to be setup.

Enemy forces : Pedestrian patrols between kertanguy and pen-ar-vir.

Friendly forces : You are the 2nd wave of troops, there will be an advanced force who will secure the infiltration zone.

Mission : Conduct amphibious infiltration and conduct reconnaissance of an itinerary in order to gather intelligence on enemy manoeuvres.

Execution :

1st Actions on : Debark on the beach west of pen ar vir.

2nd Actions on : Conduct reconnaissance of the heights of Pen ar Vir until you reach reference 63.

C2 :

Beach is secured with firing arcs to 180°.

The 2nd Wave will operate under orders of advanced forces for landings.

Withdrawal of 2nd wave will also fall under the orders of the advanced force.

Frequencies / call signs remain unchanged.

ROE : Inherent right of self defense iaw National ROE.

Identification/authentication : daily changing authentication codes.

MISSION D

Theme : Search and Rescue Operation for a soldier Missing In Action (MIA).

Location : Bay of Daoulas.

Situation : An element of the 3rd Maritime Infantry Regiment (3MIR) who are embarked in the BPC Mistral, have conducted a reconnaissance of the training camps of the local warlords. These camps could be situated north of Auberlac'h near the Ouzegan border. The Recce group were expected back 24 hours ago.

The last communication we received indicated that they have succeeded in escaping the zone however they have several KIA and one MIA. The soldier MIA is carrying highly sensitive intelligence which cannot fall into the hands of the rebels. The TG has put together a SAR team in order to find and evacuate the soldier.

During the preparation for the mission the OIC of the 3MIR had prepared 3 RV position in case of team separation.

- Port of Tinduff ;
- Bay of Roz ;
- Porsguebn Beach.

The search zone has a radius of 400m around each RV point.

Enemy Forces : pedestrian patrols, maybe motorized.

Friendly forces : nothing planned for the current time period.

Mission : Conduct reconnaissance of the 3 RV points in order to find and evacuate the soldier.

Execution :

1st Actions on : Simultaneous reconnaissance of the 3 RV positions.

2nd Actions on : Rescue and evacuate the soldier

C2 :

Frequencies / call signs remain unchanged.

ROE : Inherent right of self defense iaw National ROE.

Identification/authentication : daily changing authentication codes.

MISSION E

Theme : Support Operations for the civilian population of Crozoland.

Location : Port Maria.

Situation : Hurricane Hector has caused several injuries to the civilian population of Crozoland. The roads have been cut off, there are a few people who are in the process of arriving on the slip at Port Maria in order to be evacuated by one of the TU of TG 601.01 to the Field Hospital at Lanvéoc.

However, the situation has degraded after a surprise attack by the local rebels on the Slip of Port Maria and has resulted in two seriously injured parties.

According to the latest intelligence reports, an attack on one of the TU is imminent from a shore battery taken by the rebels.

Enemy Forces : pedestrian patrols, maybe motorized.

Friendly forces : nothing planned for the current time period.

Mission : Support the local population of Crozoland and evacuate the injured parties to the field hospital.

Execution :

1st Actions on : Evacuate the injured parties from port Maria and receive them onboard your launch.

2nd Actions on : Transport the injured parties to the field hospital at Lanvéoc.

C2 :

Frequencies / call signs remain unchanged.

ROE : Inherent right of self defense iaw National ROE.

Identification/authentication : daily changing authentication codes.

There is a submerged mine field on the approaches to Port Maria and therefore only a RHIB can approach the area.

In order not to aggravate the injuries, only one person can be transported at a time on the RHIB.

The launch cannot leave the channel of the Aulne.

There will be a rapid reaction medical team that can be called to retrieve the injured parties once onboard the launch.

MISSION F

Theme : Search, Mark and Cordon an IED.

Location : Island of the Dead in the Bay of Roscanvel.

Situation : The Island of the Dead has been declared neutral territory by the provisional government of Crozoland in order that an NGO can establish itself until the end of the conflict. The red Cross would like to establish a field hospital on the island and a British NGO has the intent to install an orphanage. The buildings have been lent by the government and are being renovated. The workers are having to work night and day to finish the renovation asap.

The HQ have just received an urgent call from the Red Cross who have received a bomb scare and that there is an IED hidden in the hospital.

The source of the threat indicated that he is an operator for one of the warlords who does not want the NGOs on the islands because it will interrupt his trafficking operations. The threat has been taken extremely seriously by the HQ. The Island of the Dead has been evacuated by all personnel.

Enemy Forces : the enemy may profit from our intervention to mount an ambush (on foot or by nautical means) around the area of the Island of the Dead.

Friendly Forces : a team of MCDs is in the process of preparing for the mine clearance and will be ready in 3 hours for the clearance.

Mission : Prepare the area for the mine clearance operations.

Execution :

1st Actions on : Search and Secure a site to land on the island.

2nd Actions on : Conduct a reconnaissance of the buildings on the Island (P1 – hospital / P2 – old hangars).

3rd Actions on : If the bomb is discovered, mark the access of the bomb, cordon the zone and send a report signal to the HQ (Signal format, not free text).

C2

Frequencies / call signs remain unchanged.

ROE : Inherent right of self defense iaw National ROE.

Identification/authentication : daily changing authentication codes.

A saddlebag with all equipment necessary is available at the HQ.

MISSION G

Theme : Reccé a site for amphibious insertion.

Location : Beach of Loch.

Situation : The amphibious TU of TG 601.01 are waiting in the bay and are ready to land troops from the army in case of a degradation of the political situation. The “D-Day” is forecasted in one week, with an eventual report date of 15 days. The HQ has a beach in mind to use in position 48°17.2N004°20.2W.

The beach has not been surveyed and does not exist in any of our Navigational dossiers, a reconnaissance is necessary for the eventual landings.

Enemy Forces : pedestrian patrols, maybe motorized.

Friendly forces : nothing planned for the current time period.

Mission : Conduct a reconnaissance of the beach and create a detailed plan of the beach and the gradient of the sea up to the low water line.

Execution

1st Actions on : Conduct reccé of the beach and the sea in the immediate vicinity.

2nd Actions on : Create a detailed navigational sketch of the zone.

C2

Frequencies / call signs remain unchanged.

ROE : Inherent right of self defense iaw National ROE.

Identification/authentication : daily changing authentication codes.

The plan must contain the following parameters ;

- Enemy forces in the area : Nature/Volume/Behaviour ;
- Environment : Ephemeral data (the LCM will have a draught of 1.5m) ;
- Sketch of soundings taken, obstacles, seabed type, land based entry points (roads/tracks etc...).

MISSION H

Theme : Checkpoint.

Location : East of the Beach of Loch.

Situation : According to our last intelligence report, the militia use the Beach of Loch to smuggle in their goods. TG 601.01 wants to stop access to the sea from the land for the Militia to impede their smuggling operations.

Enemy forces : Militia (number unknown) using the land based accesses.

Friendly Forces : None expected in the near future.

Mission : In order to stop militia access to the beach, create a control point on the access point of the beach on loch on which a motorized vehicle can pass / pt 91. It must be capable of stopping all vehicles or militia.

Execution

1st Actions on : Conduct reconnaissance the axe of the beach of loch / pt 91 (local forest of Landévennec).

2nd Actions on : Install a checkpoint.

C2

Frequencies and Call signs remain unchanged.

ROE : you have the right to engage the enemy if threatened by a weapons (guns).

Identification/authentication : daily changing authentication codes.

Control all vehicles and personnel transiting the zone.

Immobilize any vehicle or armed person or person identified as part of the militia.

Confiscate all arms and ammunition.

MISSION J

Theme : Boarding Operations (Yacht).

Location : Bay of Brest.

Situation : The last intelligence report indicated that there is a possibility of certain yachts being used to transport illegally stolen precious stones. In order to stop this illegal trafficking operations of the local warlords the TG has decided to conduct visits to all local sailing craft in the area Lanvéoc.

Enemy forces : unknown.

Friendly forces : No reinforcement foreseen.

Mission : Conduct a boarding operations on a yacht in order to arrest it and bring it back to the port of Lanvéoc.

Execution :

1st Actions on : Board and take control of the yacht in total security.

2nd Actions on : Verify the documents and cargo.

C2

Frequencies / call signs remain unchanged.

ROE : Inherent right of self defense iaw National ROE.

Identification/authentication : daily changing authentication codes.

The visit is authorized by the HQ.

MISSION K

Theme : Interception of Sensitive Documents.

Location : Auberlac'h.

Situation : One hour ago, a vessel with an French intelligence operator was intercepted and captured by the rebels south of Auberlac'h. The Operator possessed on his person certain sensitive documents, however he succeeded to escape. The last contact received left us to believe that he reached the coastline. The documents must not fall into the hands of the enemy. As soon as the rebels realized that the vessel was not of any use, they left it to drift in the bay of Auberlac'h.

Enemy forces : unknown.

Friendly forces : No reinforcements expected.

Mission : Conduct reconnaissance of the Bay of Auberlac'h in order to find the documents.

Execution

1st Actions on : search for all indications of the vessel and the documents.

2nd Actions on : transfer all documents recovered to the HQ and tow the vessel to Lanvéoc.

C2

Frequencies / call signs remain unchanged.

ROE : Inherent right of self defense iaw National ROE.

Identification/authentication : daily changing authentication codes.

Prepare your plan of action for search plans, towing ops iaw ATP10D.

MISSION L

Theme : Boarding Ops – Small Cargo Carrier.

Location : Bay of Brest.

Situation : An intelligence report has indicated that certain ships have been suspected in carrying illegal weapons around the area. In order to stop the illegal smuggling of weapons the TG have decided to control all shipping in the area of Lanvéoc.

Enemy forces : unknown.

Friendly forces : No reinforcements expected.

Mission : Conduct a boarding on the Cargo Ship in order to arrest it and bring it back to the port of Lanvéoc.

Execution :

1st Actions on : board and seize control of the ship in total security.

2nd Actions on : Verify the documents and cargo.

C2

Frequencies / call signs remain unchanged.

ROE : Inherent right of self defense iaw National ROE.

Identification/authentication : daily changing authentication codes.

The visit is authorized by the HQ.

MISSION M

Theme : Capture of a Chief Warlord

Location : Bay of Le Fret

Situation : The TG possesses intelligence believed to include that the Militia of Lanvéoc and Landévennec want to combine forces against the French forces in Crozoland. If this is indeed the case the TG will be caught in a pincer movement by the two militia groups. A snitch from the Lanvéoc militia has informed us that the two warlords will be meeting in a secret location, however the transport of the warlords will be from Le Fret to the location by the sea. The transit will take place in 90 minutes.

The identity of the warlord is unknown however he has a large scar on his right foot. He is searched by the international community for his arrest.

Enemy forces : in order to remain discreet the warlord must travel alone or with a body guard, he will not be well defended therefore will not take any risks and will cancel his transit in case he sees suspicious movement around Le Fret.

The transit should be conducted by a RHIB sent by the Warlord of Landévennec and the crew will certainly be armed.

Friendly forces : No reinforcement expected.

Mission : Intercept militia RHIB after it has embarked the passengers at Le Fret.

In order to capture and transfer the warlord you must identify that it is him and not an imposter.

Execution

1st Actions on : land a surveillance team to act in discretion at Le Fret.

2nd Actions on : on confirmation of embarkation, intercept the RHIB before the mouth of the Bay of Le Fret.

C2

Frequencies / call signs remain unchanged.

ROE : Inherent right of self defense iaw National ROE, warning shots are authorized.

Identification/authentication : daily changing authentication codes.