



# Naval Striking and Support Forces NATO



## **BALTOPS 2018 Overview**

BALTOPS 18 is the premier annual maritime-led exercise in the Baltic Sea region and one of the largest maritime exercises in Northern Europe.

The exercise is designed to improve flexibility and interoperability, in order to provide sea control and project power from the sea by means of a highly effective Maritime Force.

This year is the 46<sup>th</sup> iteration of BALTOPS, which has been playing a significant role in enhancing co-operation and partnership in the Baltic Sea.

Naval Striking and Support Forces NATO, headquartered near Lisbon, Portugal, will again lead the planning, coordination, and execution of the exercise.

## **Numbers and Figures**

From 01 to 15 June 2018

16 Nations providing forces  
22 Nations represented overall  
(20 NATO Allies and 2 Partner Nations)

43 maritime units  
More than 60 air assets

Approximately 5000 personnel participating

## **Scheme of Manoeuvre**

From the Baltic States off Klaipeda (Lithuania) to the training areas off:

Bornholm Island (Denmark)  
Ravlanda (Sweden)  
Ustka (Poland)

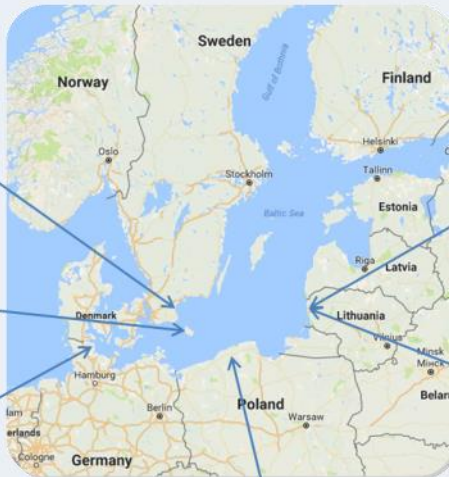
The exercise will complete in Kiel (Germany)

## Outline

01 - 15 June 2018

### Execution

BALTIC SEA  
03-15JUN



Training area  
RAVLUNDA, Sweden

Training area  
BORNHOLMISLAND,  
Denmark

End of Execution  
KIEL, Germany  
15JUN

Training area  
USTKA, Poland

Harbour Phase  
KLAIPEDA, Lithuania  
01-02JUN

Distinguished Visitors Day  
KLAIPEDA, Lithuania  
04JUN

**STRIKFORNATO** is a rapidly deployable headquarters that provides scalable command and control across the full spectrum of the Alliance's fundamental security tasks. As part of that mission, **STRIKFORNATO** is the entity responsible for integrating U.S. naval and amphibious forces into NATO operations and, since 2016, the command and control of the NATO Maritime Ballistic Missile Defence task group.

**STRIKFORNATO** maintains a **readiness** of five days notice-to-move, being able to deliver a Maritime Battle Staff Operational Command directly to the **Supreme Allied Commander Europe** (SACEUR).

**STRIKFORNATO** is a Memorandum of Understanding organisation, comprised of 12 contributing nations: France, Germany, Greece, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Turkey, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

## History

1953	STRIKFORNSOUTH (SFS) established in Naples
1957	SFS AOR expanded to encompass entire Mediterranean theatre
1960s	Served as major advisor in Nuclear Strike Planning
1967	NATO's sole Maritime Strike HQ in the Mediterranean
1970s/80s	Planned and conducted large-scale NATO amphibious exercises
1997	Maritime Commander for ALLIED FORCE (Bosnia); NATO reorganisation - SFS transitioned to NATO Force Structure
2003	SFS transitioned to STRIKFORNATO (SFN)
2004	Designated NATO's only High Readiness Maritime HQ; Certified for Expanded Task Force (ETF) level Command
2008	Deployed in support of International Security Assistance Force HQ
2009	Maritime Commander for NATO Response Force; Maritime Commander for Exercise LOYAL MIDAS
2010	Joint Commander for BALTOPS and EMERALD MOVE
2011	Maritime Commander for U.S. Joint Exercise (JTFEX); Deployed for Operation ODYSSEY DAWN and UNIFIED PROTECTOR
2012	Transitioned to Portugal - 1st deliverable for NATO HQ reform; Maritime Commander for NATO Response Force
2013	Maritime Commander for U.S. Fleet Synthetic Exercise (FST); Conducted first Maritime Expeditionary Operations Conference (MEOC)
2014	Certified as the first Joint HQ Maritime/Expeditionary;
2015	OCE/EXCON for first NATO-flagged BALTOPS (Allied Assurance);
2016	Assumed Command and Control of NATO Maritime BMD
2017	Maritime Commander for NATO Response Force

## Vice Admiral Lisa Franchetti, United States Navy Commander



Vice Admiral Franchetti is a native of Rochester, New York. She was commissioned in 1985 through the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps Program at Northwestern University, where she received a Bachelor of Science degree in Journalism. She is a graduate of the Naval War College, and holds a Master's Degree in Organizational Management from the University of Phoenix.

Her sea assignments include Auxiliaries Officer and First Division Officer on USS SHENANDOAH (AD 44); Navigator and Jumboization Coordinator on USS MONONGAHELA (AO 178); Operations Officer on USS MOOSBRUGGER (DD 980); Combat Systems Officer and Chief Staff Officer for Destroyer Squadron 2; Executive Officer of USS STOUT (DDG 55); and Assistant Surface Operations Officer on the USS GEORGE WASHINGTON Strike Group. She commanded USS ROSS (DDG 71), and Destroyer Squadron 21, embarked in USS JOHN C. STENNIS (CVN 74). She also served as Commander of Pacific Partnership 2010, embarked on USNS MERCY (T-AH 19).

Her assignments ashore include Commanding Officer of Naval Reserve Centre Central Point, Oregon; Aide to the Vice Chief of Naval Operations; Protocol Officer for the Commander of U.S. Atlantic Fleet; 4th Battalion Officer at the U.S. Naval Academy; Division Chief of Joint Concept Development and Experimentation, on the Joint Staff, J7; Deputy Director of International Engagement and Executive Assistant to N3/N5 on the Navy Staff; and Military Assistant to the Secretary of the Navy.

Her flag assignments include Commander of U.S. Naval Forces Korea, Commander of Carrier Strike Group 9, Commander of Carrier Strike Group 15, and Chief of Staff for J-5, Strategy, Plans and Policy, at the Joint Staff.

On 1 March 2018, Franchetti assumed duties as Commander of Naval Striking and Support Forces NATO and U.S. 6th Fleet; Deputy Commander of U.S. Naval Forces Europe and U.S. Naval Forces Africa; and Joint Force Maritime Component Commander.

Her personal awards include the Defence Superior Service Medal (two awards), Legion of Merit (five awards), Meritorious Service Medal (five awards), Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (four awards), and the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (two awards).



## Rear Admiral Guy Robinson, OBE, Royal Navy Deputy Commander



Guy Robinson joined the Royal Navy in 1986 as a warfare officer. His seagoing career has been primarily spent in frigates and destroyers, serving as a bridge watchkeeping officer, navigator and then Principal Warfare Officer. He has been fortunate to command three warships: the patrol vessel HMS GUERNSEY, the Type 42 Destroyer HMS EDINBURGH and the Type 45 Destroyer HMS DARING. He has been engaged on operations in the Atlantic, Mediterranean and the Gulf. In 2003, he commanded EDINBURGH during the combat phase of the 2nd Gulf War and was subsequently awarded a Mention-in-Despatches. In 2008 he operated from the Iraqi Khawr al Amaya Oil Terminal as Commander

Task Group 158.1, running operations in the Northern Arabian Gulf. In 2012, he took DARING on the first operational deployment of a Type 45 to the Middle East and was subsequently awarded an OBE in recognition of his work. In his most recent command (2015) he was the Deputy Commander of United Kingdom Maritime Forces, the Royal Navy's high readiness battle staff. During that assignment he assumed duties as Commander of Combined Task Force 150, the counter-terrorism task force operating in the Indian Ocean.

During assignments ashore, Rear Admiral Robinson has served in the UK's Ministry of Defence, working as the programmer for the Directorate of Equipment Capability (Above Water Effects). He also served on the staff of Flag Officer Sea Training staff as Commander Sea Training where he was responsible for the training of all Royal Naval major warships, from frigates to aircraft carriers, as well as a multitude of ships from both NATO and non-NATO navies. As a captain he served in the MOD's Development, Concepts & Doctrine Centre (DCDC) where he was responsible for generating maritime concepts and high-level doctrine. His most recent shore assignment (2013) has been in Navy Command Headquarters as the Assistant Chief of Staff (Warfare), where he was responsible for the development of the Fleet's warfighting capability.

When in the UK, Rear Admiral Robinson lives in Hampshire with his wife, a captain in the navy, and their two teenage children. He is a graduate of the UK Higher Command and Staff Course (2013), the US Coalition Force Maritime Component Commanders' Course (2015), the Royal College of Defence Studies (2017) and is an alumnus of the Windsor Leadership Trust. He holds a master's degree in defence studies from King's College London.



## Colonel Garth Manger, Royal Marines BALTOPS 18 Chief of Staff



Garth Manger joined the Royal Marines in 1985. After completing Young Officer Training and passing out, with the Sword of Honour, he joined 42 Cdo RM and completed his first tour of Northern Ireland and his first Norway winter as a Novice. The next few years included a tour with Commacchio Gp RM and a return to Northern Ireland as OCRM on Op Inter-net before specializing in Communications.

His first signals appointment was with 40 Cdo RM as the RSO. During which he completed a further 3 Norway winters and deployed on Op HAVEN (1992) working to help bring Kurdish refugees down from the mountains of Northern Iraq. Subsequent communications appointments were in Blandford as an instructor for the Royal Signals and at RM Poole where he deployed around the world in support of ongoing ops and training.

He Commanded X Coy 45 Cdo RM before attending the USMC Command and Staff College. He returned to an appointment in MOD within the Army's Directorate of Military Ops (DMO) as the desk officer for Northern Ireland where he helped design the subsequent withdrawal of Op Banner forces from the Province.

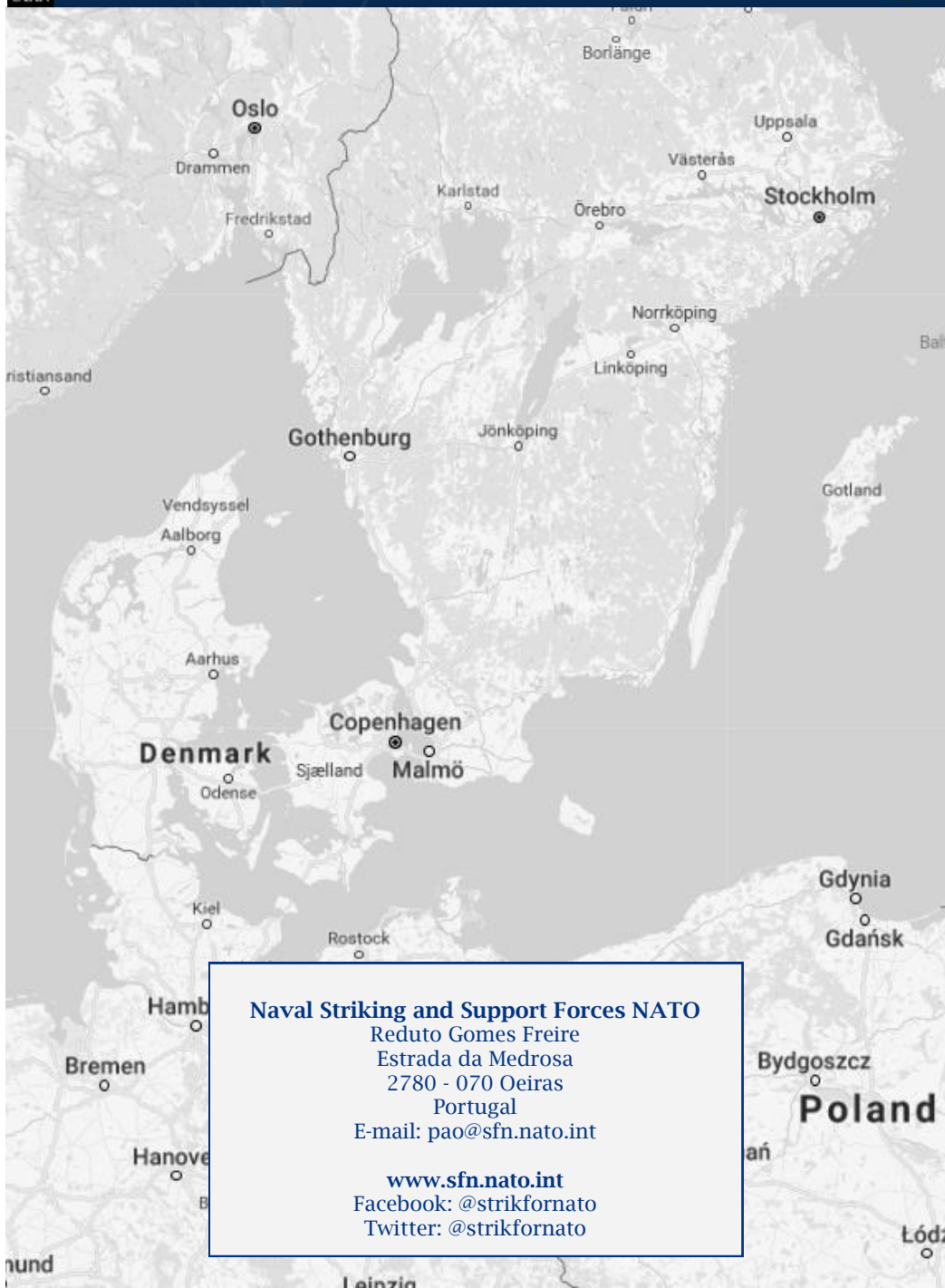
On promotion to Lt Col he took up an appointment as the Amphibious Concepts officer within Navy Command before becoming the plans officer for the UK's 2\* Amphibious HQ, deploying with the HQ to Iraq as the 2ic of the UK Security Sector Reform team within MND(SE). He then returned to the MOD with responsibility for the UK's Military policy for 27 sub Sahara African countries, before completing 2 years as the Operations and Training officer for the Joint Forces HQ. This included numerous training deployments and a short notice operation to Kenya to plan for an evacuation following the 2007 elections.

Before being promoted to Col in 2008 he spent a year as the Disappointer for all RM officers. His first appointment as a Col was at the Defence Academy as a Director on ICSC(L), followed by 3 years as the Commanding Officer of 1 Assault Gp RM. Subsequent to his current appointment in Lisbon he attended the Royal College of Defence Studies in London. He has been in Lisbon since Aug 2015.

Garth is married to Rachel, a paediatric nurse. They have 3 children, Hamish (95), Sebastian (97) and Scarlett (00). He likes running and plays hockey badly.



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