

Ex Eagle Nest 1/04

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Ex EAGLE NEST is a series of three HQ level Study Periods focused on the NRF concept which is taking place in Ugo Mara Barracks during 2004.

In January, HQ NRDC IT conducted the first, Exercise EAGLE NEST 1/04. It was a very useful opportunity to achieve a common understanding of the NRF, which is an essential prerequisite for our preparations for the stand by period.

Ex EAGLE NEST 1/04 consisted of a two-day study period (briefings/syndicate discussions; followed by a one-day Map Exercise (MAPEX) designed to develop an understanding of a likely NRF operation from ACTORD to recovery or handover to follow-on forces.

The objectives achieved were the following:

- To brief HQ Staff, C2 elements of NRF Bde and AFSOUTH Reps on NRDC-IT understanding and current developments in the NRF Concept as well as on the resulting implications for NRDC-IT and assigned Units namely during the Force Integration, collective training and Stand-by Phases.
- To obtain the higher echelons views and intentions on this issue. To have the opportunity to back brief HQ NRDC-IT on recent/relevant developments concerning NRF Concept implementation
- To brief on the way ahead for the stand-by NRF/HRF(L) period (Jun04 – Dec04) and our participation in Ex ALLIED ACTION 04.
- To listen to any queries or concerns that the invited representatives of other HQs have and to analyse possible options for the resolution of those concerns where possible.
- To establish a personal working relationship with C2 NRF Bde elms/AFSOUTH structures thus improving the passage of information and coordination between HQ NRDC-IT, subordinate formations and AFSOUTH.
- To understand clearly the organization, capabilities and limitations of all subordinated Units.

Ex EAGLE NEST 1/04 Participation included incorporating

VERY USEFUL OPPORTUNITY TO ACHIEVE A COMMON UNDERSTANDING OF THE NRF



An Officer of the CBRN Bn presenting a briefing.



Multinational Staff attending a briefing on NRF concept.

representation from C2 Elements of NRF Bde staff (Taurinense Bde), assigned Units/Formations (CBRN Bn, HU CIMIC Coy and GR Coy) and AFSOUTH J3 – J5 Representatives. AIRSOUTH, HU Div, MANTOVA Div, Arty Bde, Istar Bde, FRIULI Bde as well as other affiliated Units sent representatives as Observers.

From HQ NRDC-IT all available personnel attended during the Study Period while the MAPEX was for SO2s (Staff Officers) and above.

In order to avoid unnecessary movements for external attendees and works, scenario and planning tools for Exercises EAGLE LANDING, EAGLE ENTRY and EAGLE NEST were produced in close coordination. IPC (Initial Planning Conference) and MPC (Main Planning Conference) were also held at the same time for EAGLE exercises.

The aim of the first Exercise of the EAGLE series (NEST, ENTRY and LANDING) was to spread the NRF concept among the NRDC staff and the assigned NRF Bde elements representatives and to carry out an Exercise to implement this concept.

EXECUTION

During the **Study Period**, formal briefs held in plenary sessions were addressed to the attendees, being followed by discussions.

The Study period was split in two different working days; the first one was used for formal presentations provided by Branches concerning NRF general topics as:

- **NRF Concept - G3Ops**
- **NRF HQ (L) C2 - G3Ops**
- **NRF (L) Bde - TAURINESE Bde**
- **CIS concept - G6**
- **DJTF - AFSOUTH J5**
- **NEO (Non Combatant Evacuation Operations) and Counter terrorism Ops for NRF - G5Plans**

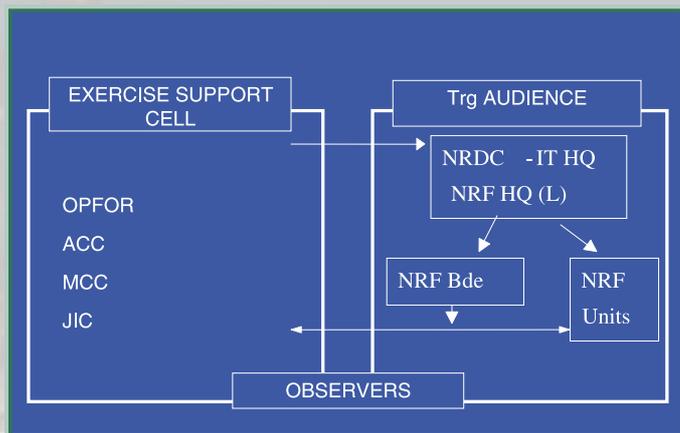


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The second day was broken down into three different activities. The first one consisted of formal briefs from G3 Ops about tactical procedures to be used by HQ NRDC-IT as NRF-3, including deployment and force integration aspects; Support Div (NRF CSS concept), RSC (RSOM) and FCOORD (Targeting Procedures). The second one allowed contributing non-framework Nations (CBRN Czech Bn, HU CIMIC Coy and GR Coy) to explain in detail the units offered to the NRF Force. And, finally, the third one consisted of separate workshops led by G3 Ops, G2 and Support Div together with the external representatives, in order to discuss functional matters. Their conclusions were presented afterwards.

G 3Ops recorded the conclusions at the end of each day and these were then presented to the audience.

Throughout the **MAPEX**, HQ NRDC-IT acted as a NRF (L) Component Command, commanding assigned NRF Bde, CS and CSS Units according to this Exercise organization.



Basic MAPEX Organisation

The MAPEX comprised two different activities:

In the morning: Three scenarios were explored as a practical confirmation of the deployment and initial activation phases. All the HQ elements across the spectrum of command explained and defined their respective roles and interaction with the other NRF components. The explanations were made within the tactical scenario but the issues discussed were largely procedural.

In the afternoon: A specific, fictional tactical scenario was described in the post deployment period that posed a problem and required all participants to develop a solution identifying lines of work for short, medium and longer term implementation and also consideration of Non-Combatant Evacuation and Counter Terrorist operational contingencies.

Once Exercise EAGLE NEST finished, it was agreed by all the participants that this kind of Exercise is a very useful



Members of the CBRN Bataillon attending a presentation.

tool for us to be trained as an NRF LCC HQ. Next EAGLE Exercises conducted in this way, when doctrine is being produced at the same time that the concept is applied, are a very powerful instrument to be used by a HQ like ours. There is no doubt about the benefits that we can obtain from these exercises, benefits that must be applied in a very short period of time. NRF-3 stand by period is just around the corner.



Media Ops videooperator supporting the MAPEX.



The Commander and his Staff attending the exercise.

