

NATO Response Force: Bloc Holds Major Naval Exercise In Mediterranean

By [Stop NATO](#)

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NATO has confirmed that it will be holding major war games in The Mediterranean from September 24 to October 7

"NATO will conduct a major naval exercise code-named Noble Mariner 12 (NOMR12) in the Mediterranean Sea.

NOMR12 plays an important part in the certification process of the NATO Response Force (NRF). This year, the objective is to certify the capacity of France to lead the maritime component of NRF.

... Allied Maritime Command Northwood will oversee both the preparation and conduct of this exercise.

Rear Admiral Philippe Coindreau (French Navy), FRMARFOR Commander, will assume command of TF 445.

The successful completion of this exercise will allow FRMARFOR to assume command of the maritime component of the NRF for the whole of 2013."

These war games involving Britain and France in the Mediterranean coincide chronologically with those conducted under US-NATO auspices in the Persian Gulf, within proximity of Iran's coastline.

The NATO Task Force (TF) 445 under French Command will deploy in a so-called "exercise zone".

The assumption of these war games are a "crisis scenario involving a multi-threat environment". They are intended to "train the staff of participating units in all types of warfare".

Although no formal announcement has been made, these war games are intended to put pressure on the Syrian government of Bashar al Assad.

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