

JLATF WEST

N E W S Q U A R T E R L Y

Counternarcotics Program News in the Indo-Asia-Pacific



Customs Narcotics Team Yacht Inspection Workshop Indonesia

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Yacht Inspection Training

The first ever pleasure Yacht Customs Inspection Training Course was held in Indonesia with customs officials from the Indonesian Customs and Excise Department (DJBC) for one week. Instructors from JIATF West, Homeland Security Investigations (HSI), and Indonesia provided training.



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IMS in Maldives

A counterdrug training event was held on Girifushi Island in Maldives by JIATF West's Integrated Maritime Skills Training Team (IMS). This training was the third in a series of training and is key to JIATF West's multi-year Maldives Maritime Security Initiative with the Maldives National Defense Forces (MNDF).



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IMS in Bangladesh

The Integrated Maritime Skills Training Team provided two weeks of instruction to the Bangladesh Coast Guard on vessel maintenance and maritime law enforcement.



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CTF Training in China

In collaboration with the Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation Division (IRS-CI), JIATF West completed two Financial Investigative Techniques Training events in the People's Republic of China under the JIATF West Counter Threat Finance (CTF) program.



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The 13th Executive Working Group

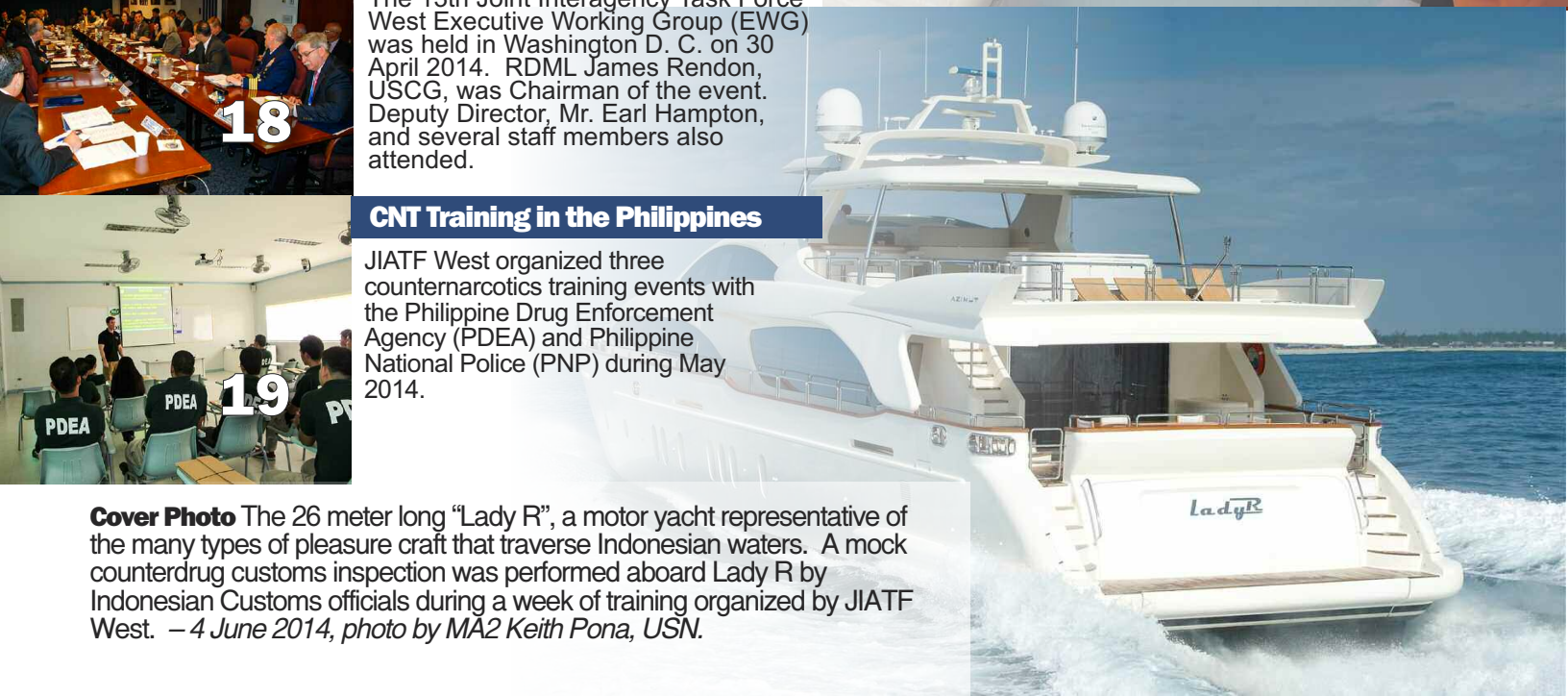
The 13th Joint Interagency Task Force West Executive Working Group (EWG) was held in Washington D. C. on 30 April 2014. RDML James Rendon, USCG, was Chairman of the event. Deputy Director, Mr. Earl Hampton, and several staff members also attended.



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CNT Training in the Philippines

JIATF West organized three counternarcotics training events with the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) and Philippine National Police (PNP) during May 2014.




Cover Photo The 26 meter long "Lady R", a motor yacht representative of the many types of pleasure craft that traverse Indonesian waters. A mock counterdrug customs inspection was performed aboard Lady R by Indonesian Customs officials during a week of training organized by JIATF West. — 4 June 2014, photo by MA2 Keith Pona, USN.

Customs Narcotics Yachts & Small Vessels Workshop Indonesia

Members of JIATF West's Integrated Maritime Skills (IMS) training team traveled to Indonesia to conduct a maritime law enforcement and counternarcotics workshop for the Indonesian Customs and Excise Department (DJBC) for one week in June. The training was designed to take place prior to the start of "Sail Indonesia 2014", an annual international ocean yacht rally from Darwin Australia to Kupang Indonesia held every July since 2000. Sail Indonesia typically brings approximately 100 international luxury sailing vessels to Indonesian waters. The purpose of the JIATF West training

was to enhance the DJBC's ability to target, search, and interview personnel aboard pleasure craft that might potentially be smuggling drugs or illicit substances. A pleasure craft is any boat or yacht that is privately owned and is usually less than 30 meters in length. The versatility and capability to travel long distances in open ocean have made pleasure craft the ideal choice by smugglers to move drugs. A recent example is the interdiction of 750 Kg of cocaine from the sailing vessel "The Raj" in Vanuatu by Australian and US authorities on 23 August 2013.



Indonesian Customs Officials inspect compartments of a 26 meter power yacht during a mock inspection as part of a week-long counternarcotics training event organized by JIATF West in Bali, Indonesia. — 4 June 2014, photo by MA2 Keith Pona, USN



Indonesian Customs Officials inspect compartments of a 26 meter power yacht during a mock inspection as part of a week-long counternarcotics training event organized by JIATF West in Bali, Indonesia. —4 June 2014, photo by MA2 Keith Pona, USN

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Indonesian Customs officials search for contraband aboard the 26 meter power yacht, “Lady R”, in Bali, during mock inspections as part of JIATF West organized counternarcotics training. — 4 June 2014, photo by CM1 Steve Miller, USN.

In hopes of curbing illicit smuggling, the DJBC requested U.S. training assistance from the U.S. Embassy in Jakarta prior to the event. This led to Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) Attaché, Mr. Timothy Dwyer to coordinate with JIATF West and seek the support of its IMS team. The design and coordination of the workshop was a joint effort between the DJBC, Indonesia’s National Narcotics Board, HSI, Australian Customs and Border Protection Service, and JIATF West. Mr. Hengky Aritonang, DJBC Training Officer, was the lead event organizer. This specialized training was the first of its kind for JIATF West and DJBC and specifically focused on screening smaller pleasure craft for

drug trafficking. The workshop took place from 2 to 6 June, 2014, in Kuta, Bali and was attended by 46 regional international port Senior Investigators from 41 of Indonesia’s sea ports spanning from Northern Sumatra (near Malaysia) to West Papua (near Australia). “Senior-level officials from across Indonesia were present allowing us to influence a large cross section of the DJBC,” said IMS Officer in Charge, LCDR Stephen Bower, USN — The event kicked off with an opening ceremony attended by two senior members of the DJBC as well as U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement representative Mr. Trevor Helderop. The whole program focused on drug related tactics and techniques, case

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Indonesian Customs officials (orange shirts) stand with JIATF West IMS team members dressed as role players on the bow of a 26 meter power yacht during a mock vessel inspection in Bali. — 4 June 2014, photo by LCDR Stephen Bower, USN.

studies, and two sessions on search procedures. Mr. Kurtis Derell from JIATF West's Intelligence Directorate provided a well-received overview of JIATF West, information sources, and intelligence planning. Indonesia Narcotics Department, Directorate of Internal Compliance, and Indonesia National Police provided instruction covering customs policies and agency specific topics. The Australian Customs and Border Protection Officer from the Australian Embassy in Jakarta presented information on customs inspection procedures and interview techniques. The hands on scenario based instruction took place on a rented 26 meter motor yacht, the "Lady R", at

Benoa Harbor. The yacht, Lady R, was a good representation of a typical pleasure craft capable of traversing international waters. Indonesian customs officials took turns in teams to practice searching various rooms and compartments. "The customs officials were seeking to learn best practices from international partners to better identify suspect pleasure craft," said Kurtis Derell. "They were very receptive and eager to work with us." Participants were divided into six search teams, and completed a total of twelve scenarios over two days aboard the large yacht and also on a smaller catamaran alongside the pier.

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An Indonesian Customs official conducts mock questioning to members of JIATF West's Integrated Maritime Skills training team during a vessel search on a power yacht in Bali. – 4 June 2014, photo by MA2 Keith Pona, USN.

According to LCDR Bower, “The students demonstrated significant progress in the short time we were able to work with them.

This training also develops our relationship with our counterparts, and will enhance future IMS events in Indonesia.” □



Indonesian Customs officials participate in mock vessel search during counternarcotics training in Bali. The training was jointly organized by the DJBC, HSI, and JIATF West. – 4 June 2014, Photo by MA2 Keith Pona, USN.

Integrated Maritime Skills Training in Maldives



J IATF West's Integrated Maritime Skills (IMS) training team worked with the Maldives National Defense Forces (MNDF) from 10 to 24 June 2014 for law enforcement and maritime skills training. The two week event, "IMS Metal 14-1" was designed to support MNDF counternarcotics capabilities.

The MNDF has a multi-faceted mission encompassing a vast ocean territory of 1192 islands across 21,350 square miles of ocean. They are responsible for protecting territorial waters and the marine environment, conducting search and

rescue and salvage operations, enforcing maritime law, providing VIP and convoy protection, and carrying out coastal surveillance.



IMS training helps partner nation security forces to reach a competency level where they can then benefit from more advanced training from U.S. Special Operations Forces.

This IMS training was the third in a series of training and is key to JIATF West's multi-year Maldives Maritime Security initiative to enhance the capabilities of Maldivian forces and protect their maritime territory from drug trafficking and other illicit use.

IMS Metal 14-1 was closely coordinated through U.S. Embassy Colombo, Sri Lanka, with assistance from the Office of Defense Cooperation (ODC), and Regional Security Officer (RSO).

The training took place at the Girifushi Training Center on Girifushi Island, which also hosts an Officer Candidate School and Non Commissioned Officers Academy. The opening ceremony was attended by CPT Jamshad, Director of the Maldives Coast Guard Training Center, MAJ Waheed, and 34 officers. Additionally, four members of the Bangladesh Coast Guard attended the course as guests of the MNDF.

According to LCDR Stephen Bower, USN, IMS Officer in Charge, this group of students was one of the most disciplined the IMS team has ever worked with. “Students maintained a strict routine of 0530 reveille, 0600 physical training, and class from 0800-1630,” said LCDR Bower. “They also studied training material after hours, reviewing the lesson topics and preparing for the following day.”

During the training event, COL Mohammed Ibrahim, MNDF-CG Commander (and 97’ U.S. Naval Academy graduate), visited Girifushi to view the training and attend the closing ceremony. COL Ibrahim addressed the participants and commented on the need for this type of maritime training.



An officer of the MNDF practices using a baton during maritime law enforcement training with members of JIATF West's Integrated Maritime Skills training team. From second left to right, MA2 Keith Pona, USN; BM1 Alfred Jurison, USCG; and LCDR Stephen Bower, USN. -12 June 2014, photo by JIATF West.



CM1 Steve Miller, USN, rehearses take down and fall techniques during law enforcement training with MNDF members at the Girifushi Training Center in Maldives.
– 12 June 2014, photo by MA2 Keith Pona, USN

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In an energetic speech to the students COL Imbrahim implored their aggressiveness and discipline, restating the importance of the course content with their duties.

“The security situation in the Indian Ocean is changing,” said COL Ibrahim. “And the threats the Maldives are facing will be shared with other regional countries.” He specifically welcomed the Bangladesh students and stressed that their presence and partnership were valued.



City of Malé, Maldives

JIATF West helps support Maldives Law Enforcement and Military efforts by sponsoring joint training initiatives designed to improve their capability to counter drug related crimes by transnational criminal organizations.

To date JIATF West conducted 10 various counternarcotics training events (including the three from IMS) in Maldives since 2011. JIATF West's new type of maritime law enforcement training, IMS, is set to be conducted a second time in Maldives later in 2014. □



2nd from left, Lt. Thorig Mohamed Rasheed, interviews BM1 Alfred Jurison, USCG, far right, who is playing the role of “Captain” during anchored boarding drills with Maldives National Defense Forces during maritime law training at Girifushi Island . -12 June 2014, photo by LCDR Stephen Bower, USN.

Bangladesh Coast Guard Trains with JIATF West's IMS

Members of JIATF West's Integrated Maritime Skills (IMS) team traveled to Bangladesh for the third time to conduct training with the Bangladesh Coast Guard (BCG). For two weeks from 20 April to 4 May, IMS team members provided instruction on

maritime vessel maintenance, maritime law enforcement, and field first aid. The training took place at the BCG's East Zone Command in Chittagong, Bangladesh.

The new Base Commanding Officer, CDR Majur, spoke at the opening ceremony.



Closing ceremony at BCG's East Zone Headquarters. From left to right, front row, LCDR Stephen Bower, USN, OIC of IMS team, CAPT Shahidul Islam, the East Zone Commander; Base Commander, CDR Manjur; and East Zone Operations Officer, CDR Radwan. Back right, MA2 Keith Pona, USN; ENC Jeffrey Guiso, USN; and MK2 Sean Cahill, USCG. -29 May 2014.

Bangladesh Coast Guard Trains with JIATF West's IMS

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Bangladesh Coast Guard members inspect the inboard diesel engine compartment of a Metal Shark patrol boat. - 28 May 2014, Photo by JIATF West

He emphasized the importance of bilateral relationships and the meaningful impact on the BCG from better maintenance and repair capabilities.

15 members of the BCG received training in a variety of maritime topics. The purpose of this third iteration of training was to cover more advanced maritime maintenance topics. Some of the topics included Coast Guard rules, hull maintenance, electrical fundamentals, heat exchanger theory, turbo charger theory, diesel and electronic fuel injection, tools, operational logs, and first aid.

Gathering performance metrics was also an important

part of the training, a pretest in basic engineering and maintenance skills assessment were administered prior to the training. Post test results showed significant improvement in both written and practical categories.

One of the challenges of working in Bangladesh during the April – May timeframe is the temperature. Daily highs approaching 100 degrees Fahrenheit are common.

After two weeks of training, a closing ceremony was held at the BCG East Zone Command Headquarters. CAPT Shahidul Islam, the East Zone Commander, attended along with Base Commander, CDR Manjur, and East Zone Operations Officer CDR Radwan. □



A Metal Shark Patrol Boat



BM1 Alfred Jurison, USN, observes BCG members working on a metal shark patrol boat during a post training skills assessment in order to capture performance metrics.
— 28 April 2014, Chittagong, Bangladesh.

Financial Investigative Techniques Training in China

By Ms. Jennifer Schmidt

In Fiscal Year 14, JIATF West and the Department of the Treasury's Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation (IRS-CI) training team completed two Financial Investigative Techniques Training events in the People's Republic of China under JIATF West's Counter Threat Finance Program. The first

event was held in Guangzhou, China from 14-18 April. 35 students attended the training from the following Chinese government agencies: Ministry of Public Security, to include the Narcotics Control Bureau and the Economic Crime and Investigation Division; the People's Bank of China to include the Anti-Money Laundering Branch and the Guangdong People's Procuratorate to include the Anti-Corruption Bureau Investigation Command Center.



IRS-CI Beijing Attaché, Special Agent Wayne Chan provided opening remarks at the training in Shanghai, China. – 16 June 2014, Photo by JIATF West.

Financial Investigative Techniques Training in China

One government speaker from the People's Bank of China provided a lecture on Chinese anti-money laundering legislation and also gave an overview on some Chinese investigations that the People's Bank had worked on. The class went very well with participation increasing significantly throughout the week. Seat assignments were planned in advance to ensure that members from different agencies sat and worked through problems together, this appeared to work well and by the end of the course each table seemed to have developed some "table pride" while working on group practical exercises.

The second event was held in Shanghai, China from 16-20 June. Approximately 40 students attended this training and the makeup of the student body was similar to Guangzhou. In addition, the coursework taught was similar with the focus being on following the money, interviewing techniques, bank records and a significant amount of practical exercises that forced the tables to work together and utilize the student's different strengths.

Looking ahead, in Fiscal Year 15, JIATF West plans to continue this training with two more scheduled iterations, one in Guangzhou and one in Chengdu. □

US-China Financial Investigative Techniques Training 美中经济犯罪调查手法培训



Shanghai, China

2014 年 6 月 16 日 - 20 日

中国 · 上海

The 13th Biannual JIATF West Executive Working Group

The 13th Joint Interagency Task Force West (JIATF West) Executive Working Group (EWG) was held in Washington D. C. on April 30, 2014. This semiannual event was co-hosted by the Acting Director, Office of National Drug Control Policy, Mr. Michael Botticelli; and Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (DASD for Counternarcotics and Global Threats (CN>), Ms. Caryn Hollis. RDML James Rendon, Director, JIATF West, served as the EWG Chairman.

The EWG discussion focused on Maritime Security in the Asia-Pacific region from a counternarcotics perspective with an emphasis on Southeast Asia. Highlights included: comments from

ONDCP's new Acting Director on ONDCP's priorities for the year; insights from DASD Hollis on her recent trip to Southeast Asia; update the focus areas for Department of State's Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs and Bureau of East Asia Pacific; Ms. Lisa Holtyn from the National Security Council staff provided an overview of the USG efforts to move forward on the Strategy to Combat Transnational Organized Crime;

Ms. Akemi Randle provided a briefing on JIATF West's efforts to assist with Threat Mitigation Working Group targeting efforts.

Interagency partners attending included, the Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS), Department of Justice (DOJ), Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA), Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Department of State, Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Coast Guard (USCG), Customs and Border Protection (CBP),

Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), National Security Council (NSC), and The Interdiction Committee (TIC) Executive Staff.



The JIATF West Executive Working Group builds and strengthens relationships among the interagency community of interest dedicated to combating drug-related transnational organized crime (TOC) in the Indo-Asia-Pacific. Alignment and collaboration with the community of interest allows JIATF West to maximize its effectiveness in whole of government efforts. □

CNT Training in the Philippines May 2014

JIATF West organized three separate counternarcotics training events with the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) and Philippine National Police (PNP) took place during May 2014. The largest event, Baker Piston 14-3 and an Instructor Development Course both took place at the PDEA Academy at Camp General Mariano N. Castaneda, located in Silang Cavite, Philippines. The third event, a three day Law Enforcement Intelligence and Investigation Course, was conducted at the Interagency Counter-Narcotics Operations Network (ICON)

Facility at Makar Wharf, in General Santos City, South Cotabato.

The five week Baker Piston 14-3 event was from 5 May to 7 June with PDEA units in the Silang Cavite area. The training event was designed as intermediate level training for units and individuals who had previously trained with JIATF West. The event focused on Instructor development and tactical operations. Advanced rifle and pistol marksmanship and medical first aid were some of the other topics covered.



Philippine law enforcement members participating in JIATF West organized counternarcotics training at Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency Headquarters in Silang Cavite. — 29 May 2014, photo by JIATF West.

CNT Training in the Philippines – May 2014

Participation was not limited to members of the PDEA only, but included participants from the Philippine National Police (PNP), National Bureau of Investigation (NBI), Bureau of Customs (BOC), and Bureau of Immigration (BOI) as well. 12 military instructors along with two members of the U.S. DEA provided instruction to approximately 50 participants.

JIATF West Training Liaison Officer, LT Franz Federschmidt, USN, was also present for the duration of the event. A culminating field training exercise was conducted during week five prior to the closing ceremony which was

attended by Mr. Rob Cash, U.S. DEA, and Atruro Cacdac, Director General, PDEA. 14 members of the PDEA participated in the four day Instructor Development Course that took place from 5 to 8 May. A military instructor from the U.S. Army led the Instructor Development Course.

The third event, "Law Enforcement Intelligence and Investigation Course" in General Santos City, was designed as a standalone event and was requested by PDEA and the U.S. DEA Manila Country Office. The trainers were JIATF West's Mr. Rick Parker and LT Alexander Morstadt, USN.



An Army Instructor presenting at the Instructor Development Course in support of Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency counternarcotics efforts in Silang Cavite, Philippines. — 4 May 2014, photo by JIATF West.

CNT Training in the Philippines – May 2014

They provided instruction on regional drug threats, Principles of Intelligence, Evaluating Sources, Container Tracking and Analytical Tools. U.S. DEA provided instruction on intelligence roles and responsibilities, intelligence information collection methods, basic money laundering, basic imagery support, emerging threats of African drug traffickers, and other intelligence analysis topics.

Thirty (30) members of the PDEA, Philippine Coast Guard, Philippine National Police, National Bureau of Investigation, Bureau of Customs, and the National Intelligence Coordinating Agency participated.

JIATF West has been supporting the PDEA since its inception. Since 2009, 47 training events have been conducted as well as two infrastructure projects including the PDEA headquarters building in Manila and the PDEA Academy in Cavite — all to enhance the PDEA's capabilities in developing into a fully operational and very capable counterdrug force. □

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PDEA members practicing field first aid during counternarcotics training. – 14 May 2014, Photo by JIATF West



A U.S. Military instructor reviews the hands on training events for the day with members of the PDEA – 14 May 2014, Photo by JIATF West



LT Alexander Morstadt, USN, presenting at "Law Enforcement Intelligence and Investigation Course" in General Santos City. – 20 May 2014, photo by JIATF West.



Sunset over the Waianae mountain
range as seen from Camp H. M.
Smith, Hawaii. — Photo by Shawn
Parrish, 19 Feb 2014.

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