



5000 NSC-32/Ser.: NU134

TO: See Distribution List

SUBJECT: **INVITATION LETTER FOR “UNDERWATER POST BLAST EXPLOITATION (UPX)” TRAINING, 20 to 24 May 2024**

DATE: 24 November 2023

REFERENCES: NMIOTC Program of Work (NPOW) 2024

1. Introduction: In support of future developments in C-IED and the Technical Exploitation (TE) capabilities across the Alliance, NMIOTC will conduct the Underwater Post Blast Exploitation (UPX) Training, which will be delivered with the cooperation of the FBI and the US Navy Exploitation Unit 1. This training serves as an enhancement as well as an introduction to the field of the Maritime – Weapons Intelligence Team (M-WIT) established capability of NATO and **is inextricably linked to the NMIOTC NATO approved Course 23000 (WIT Supp in the Maritime Environment) scheduled for the following week (27 – 31 May 2024).**

2. Aim: The aim of the training is to teach procedures for investigating maritime terrorism incidents. The training will include Diving Operations and the detonation of underwater improvised devices.

3. Participants: The target audience is **EOD Divers** exclusively, qualified with national/multinational 1st Level Technical Exploitation / Field Collection skills.

NMIOTC is pleased to invite NATO Nations and Interoperability Platform Partner Nations¹ to participate in this event, which will take place at the Centre’s premises in Souda Bay, Chania, Greece, from **20 to 24 May 2024**.

4. Classification: The training is marked as “NATO Unclassified / Releasable to Interoperability Platform Partner Nations” NMIOTC will apply security arrangements and regulations according to NATO standards.

5. Specific Details: The training will be conducted in English. Translation to/from other languages will not be provided. The following proficiency standards in English are required to attend: Listening- Functional (2), Speaking- Functional (2), Reading- Functional (2), and Writing- Functional (2) (STANAG 6001).

¹ Interoperability Platform members: Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Finland, Georgia, Ireland, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Mongolia, Morocco, New Zealand, Serbia, Sweden, Switzerland, Tunisia, Ukraine, and the United Arab Emirates.

6. As a prerequisite, during the registration process on the first training day, an **Official Military Diving Certificate** should be provided to the Course Director. All trainees should bring their own diving equipment. NMIOTC will provide tanks and weights upon request during the application (no extra charge).

7. A detailed agenda will be included in the Joining Instructions which will be released NLT two weeks before the course starting date.

8. In order to pass the training and acquire the relevant certificate, participants must attend at least 85% of the modules of the training. Assessment of trainee performance will be accomplished during the practical training. Trainees will demonstrate skills during practical drills and scenarios and will be evaluated by the Instructors.

9. The training will start on **Monday, 20 May and will end on Friday, 24 May 2024**. The training schedule will run approximately from 07:30 to 16:00 daily.

10. For organizational purposes, candidates are kindly requested to register **no later than (NLT) Friday 12 Apr 2024**. Registration should be made on NMIOTC's official web site: www.nmiotc.nato.int. Due to the high demand for this training, prospective attendees are requested to refrain from making travel arrangements until participation is confirmed by NMIOTC. All efforts will be made to ensure a diverse representation of participating nations. Comprehensive administrative instructions are provided in Enclosure 1.

11. **Participation Fee:** The fee for the training is **2300 €** per person. Comprehensive payment instructions and cancelation policy can be found in Enclosure 1. This cost includes daily transportation (from Chania city centre to NMIOTC and vice versa, internal transportation between all training areas), use of RHIBs, safety personnel as necessary (ambulance, dive doctors, security divers, decompression chamber), daily refilling of tanks, Fixed Training Platforms and sea-borne target vessels / boat, IEDs, disruptors and cartridges for IED disposal, Classroom facilities with IT support, Basic Exploitation Equipment, Boxed lunch on a daily basis and participation to an Ice Breaker event (dinner) hosted by NMIOTC.

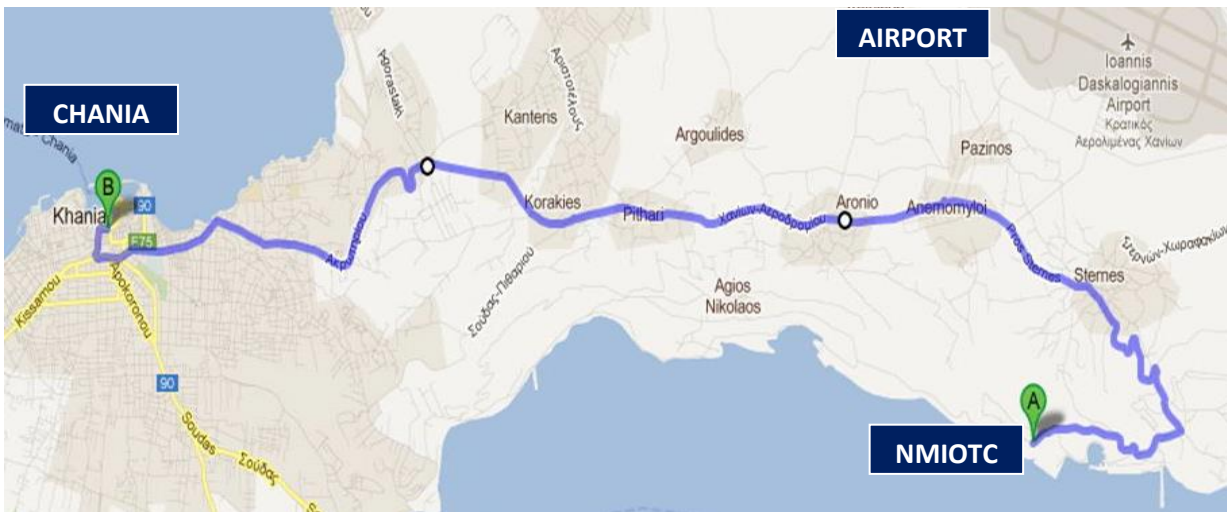
12. **NMIOTC Points of Contact (POCs):**

- a. **Course Director:** Lt. Cdr Evangelos Anastasakis GRC(N)
Phone: (+30) 28210 85728, Fax: (+30) 28210 85702
e-mail: anastasakise@nmioct.nato.int
- b. **Assistant Course Director:** LT Andrew Hayne USA(N)
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e-mail: haynea@nmioct.nato.int
- c. **Registration POC:** Lt Cdr Konstantinos Papanastasis GRC(N)
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Themistoklis Papadimitriou
Commodore GRC(N)
Commandant NMIOTC

ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS

1. Location: NMIOTC is located on the Akrotiri peninsula near the city of Chania in the north-western part of Crete. The destination airport is Chania International Airport “Ioannis Daskalogiannis” (airport code: CHQ). The distance from the city of Chania to NMIOTC is 20 km and from the airport to NMIOTC is 9 km. The following map provides orientation and general driving directions from the city of Chania to NMIOTC.



2. Registration: Participants are requested to sign up to NMIOTC registration portal found in NMIOTC website <https://nmiotc.nato.int> or using directly the link <https://nmiotc.classter.com/Actions/Registration> . A signup confirmation message will be received to the email provided during the sign up process, along with the respective credentials. Login to <https://nmiotc.classter.com> and submit your application to the respective course/event by using the “Application Management” function at the top left corner of the portal main page. You will receive a relevant message after the process of your application and your application will be “ACCEPTED”. You can update your personal and participation information (accommodation, travel days, etc) until your registration status become “REGISTERED”, approximately 10 days before the event. Registration status can be verified within the portal. If you encounter any problem during registration process, please contact studentadmin@nmiotc.nato.int or NMIOTC PoCs.

3. Visa Requirement: The participants or their national authorities are responsible for visa arrangements. The participants are advised to contact the proper diplomatic authorities for up to date information, well in advance. It is the individual’s responsibility to obtain his/her visa and to have the proper travel and medical documentation. Hellenic Ministry of Foreign Affairs website (www.mfa.gr) provides relevant visa information requirements. NMIOTC will provide a Visa Support Letter, if requested.

4. Tuition/Participation Fee and Methods of Payment:

A.BEFORE THE MEETING/EVENT	INFORMATION	REMARKS
1. By Bank Deposit	NATIONAL BANK OF GREECE, NMIOTC BANK ACCOUNT 494/540010-48 SWIFT BIC: ETHN GRAA IBAN: GR3801104940000049454001048	Bank deposits should be completed not later than 2 working days before the start date of the event , bank charges are not covered by NMIOTC. The receipt should be sent by email to kleinakisd@nmiotc.nato.int and cc masourakii@nmiotc.nato.int .
2. By Debit/Credit Card	Upon notification from the participant, the direct link for credit/debit card payment will be sent to the designated-by the participant-email address.	The participant should send an email to kleinakisd@nmiotc.nato.int and cc masourakii@nmiotc.nato.int for receiving the link for the credit/debit card payment
B. ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE MEETING/EVENT	INFORMATION	REMARKS
3. By Debit/Credit card	A valid credit/debit card should be presented on the first day of the event.	The fee is always paid in euros [the credit/debit card may provide the option to pay in another currency (other than euro) and therefore the ‘euro’ currency option must be chosen].
4. By Cash	-	The fee is always paid in euros.

5. Cancellation Policy: A late cancellation of a confirmed seat significantly impacts NMIOTC’s ability to maximize training opportunities for the Alliance and results in a financial loss for NMIOTC. Upon receipt of written confirmation NMIOTC calendar, our cancellation fees apply as follows:

- a. 30 to 15 days prior to course start date: 10% of student tuition due.
- b. 14 to 8 days prior to course start date: 25% of student tuition due.
- c. 1 week prior to course start date: 50% of student tuition due.

6. Dress Code: Participants are strongly recommended to wear Daily Service/ Battle Dress Uniforms or National Equivalent for the whole training as well as for the Graduation Ceremony.

7. Meals: A small canteen is available within the NMIOTC main building and provides snacks for a nominal cost. A lunch box will be delivered to the training areas (Diving areas included) on a daily basis. Any dietary restrictions should be timely passed to the Course Director.

8. Accommodation: Participants are responsible to arrange their own accommodation as there is no accommodation facilities on the Centre's premises. NMIOTC can provide guidance / assistance, if requested. Hotels near Chania city centre are highly recommended for transportation purposes. The list of recommended hotels in Chania offering special prices (for participants who book directly with each hotel by e-mail using the code "NMIOTC Guest") and including breakfast and internet connection, is as follows:

AKALI 4* hotel www.akali-hotel.gr. (promotional code "NMIOTC")
E-mail: info@akali-hotel.gr Tel: (+30) 28210 92872.

KYDON 4* hotel www.kydon-hotel.com (promotional code "NMIOTC")
E-mail: info@kydon-hotel.gr Tel.: (+30) 28210 52280.

SAMARIA 4* hotel www.samariahhotel.gr (promotional code "NMIOTC")
E-mail: reservations@samariahhotel.gr Tel.: (+30) 28210 38600.

ARKADI 3* hotel www.arkadi-hotel.gr
E-mail: info@arkadi-hotel.gr Tel: (+30) 28210 90181.

KRITI 3* hotel, www.kriti-hotel.gr , E-mail: info@kriti-hotel.gr, Tel. +302821051881

PORTO VENEZIANO 3* hotel www.portoveneziano.gr.
E-mail: hotel@portoveneziano.gr Tel: +30 28210 27100.

9. Arrival and Departure: Participants should plan to fly to Chania International airport (airport code: CHQ) and are responsible for their own transportation from / to the Airport during arrival / departure. Transportation from Chania Airport to the city centre is available as follows:

a. By bus: The bus stop is located outside the terminal and the ticket cost is 2.50 €. For further information and detailed timetables, visit the following link: www.e-ktel.com/en/services/dromologia

b. By taxi from the airport directly to Chania city center, 24/7, approx. 25,00€

c. Additionally, there are several rental car agencies at the airport. Rental car agencies that have offered special prices for NMIOTC guests are as follows:

i. Gelasakis Car Rental: E-mail: cars@stc.gr, www.rentacar-chania.gr, tel. +30 28210 89065.

ii. Spa Tours & Cars Enterprises: E-mail info@spatours.gr, www.spatours.gr, tel. +30 28210 57444.

10. Transportation: Transportation will be provided on a daily basis from Chania city centre pick-up points (Akali, Samaria (Arkadi is asked to use the Samaria stop as well), Kydon, Kriti (Porto Veneziano is asked to use the Kriti stop as well) to NMIOTC and vice-versa, during the course.

11. Medical service: Trainees are required to have a valid health insurance according to their respective national standards. Trainees from the EU Member States are required to possess a valid European Health Insurance Card. NMIOTC ensures first aid during training, providing emergency transportation to the Naval Hospital of Crete if needed. The Naval Hospital of Crete can provide diagnosis, first aid and treatment, while the Prefectural Hospital of Chania can provide further diagnosis or specialist treatment if required. NMIOTC do not cover trainees' expenses for additional medical treatments and the settlement of medical bills is a patient/national responsibility.

12. Security: NMIOTC adheres to NATO security standards. There is a strict access control procedure for entrance into the Marathi main gate and NMIOTC main building. You will be required to provide your passport or your national identification during in-processing and whenever you enter the premises. The overall security classification of presentations/discussions is up to "NATO Restricted / Releasable to Interoperability Platform Partner Nations". Therefore, all participants will be required to show the respective Security Clearance Certificate during the in-Processing.