

- **Balanço – Ágata 11 apreende R\$ 700 mil em descaminho e contrabando**
- **Interoperabilidade entre FAB e EB visa treinamento para as Olimpíadas***
- **Italy Reveals Innovations on New Naval Vessels**
- **Sweden, Finland Stress Defense Cooperation Ahead of Russian Visit**

Balanço – Ágata 11 apreende R\$ 700 mil em descaminho e contrabando

Por Alexandre Gonzaga

O Ministério da Defesa divulgou nesta sexta-feira (24) um balanço final da 11ª Ágata, que contou com a participação de 12 mil militares da Marinha, Exército e Aeronáutica e cerca de 40 órgãos públicos federais, estaduais e municipais. A Operação, que se encerrou na última quarta-feira (22), apreendeu mercadorias avaliadas em R\$ 687 mil em descaminho, que é o não recolhimento de tributos, e R\$ 16 mil em produtos contrabandeados. Além disso, os agentes públicos recolheram R\$ 612 mil em dinheiro

e de origem não declarada. O trabalho é fruto das 126.259 vistorias e inspeções em pontos de bloqueio e controle de estradas nas regiões de fronteiras.

Foram apreendidas 5,7 toneladas de explosivos, 168 armas e 22.865 munições, 11 toneladas de maconha, 123 kg de cocaína e 122 kg de outras drogas, além de 4,4 mil metros cúbicos de madeira. Até o momento, foram presas 71 pessoas.

As inspeções em embarcações somam 7.732 em pontos fluviais. Foram realizadas 575 patrulhas navais e fluviais. Equipes da Agência Nacional de Aviação Civil (Anac) fizeram inspeções em 62 aeronaves 13 aeródromos. Cerca de 40 toneladas de carga e 1,2 mil passageiros foram transportados pela Força Aérea Brasileira (FAB), em apoio ao Exército - em especial aos pelotões de fronteira, às polícias e às agências federais.

A FAB realizou ainda 40 patrulhas aéreas. Somente na área de fronteira a defesa aérea realizou 22 interceptações de aeronaves desconhecidas. Os tráfegos estavam sobrevoando área de operação ou suas proximidades sem plano de voo e foram identificados pelos militares através dos meios engajados para a operação. Em apoio a ações da Marinha e do Exército, a FAB também realizou o reconhecimento aéreo de sete pontos, especialmente na tríplice fronteira na região Sul.

Ações Cívico-Sociais

Durante a Operação, militares e agentes públicos promovem ações cívico-sociais (Acisos), em prol de comunidades isoladas e carentes. Foram prestados 9.278 atendimentos médicos, 6.082 serviços odontológicos, e mais de 34 mil procedimentos de prevenção à saúde. Também foram realizados serviços de manutenção e reformas em 231 órgãos públicos, principalmente, nas escolas, e reparos em 68 estradas. As Acisos emitiram 1.108 documentos para cidadãos e foram realizadas mais de 26 mil atividades sócio-culturais.

11ª Ágata

A Operação teve início na semana passada (13/06) e ocorre de Roraima ao Rio Grande do Sul, e envolvendo os 16.886 quilômetros de fronteiras, em 11 estados. A Operação interagências ocorre simultaneamente nas áreas dos Comandos Militares da Amazônia (CMA), sediado em Manaus (AM); do Oeste (CMO), localizado em Campo Grande (MS); e do Sul (CMS), em Porto Alegre (RS). O teatro de operações da Ágata 11 engloba 710 municípios, sendo 122 limítrofes.

As últimas edições da Ágata precederam a realização de grandes eventos como a Copa das Confederações, em 2013, e a Copa do Mundo, em 2014.

Participam desse esforço a Polícia Federal, Polícia Rodoviária Federal, Agência Brasileira de Inteligência (ABIN), Ibama, Funai, Receita Federal e órgãos de segurança dos estados das regiões de fronteira. Cerca de 40 agências governamentais, juntamente com o efetivo das Forças Armadas, realizam ações de fiscalização e inspeção nas estradas, patrulhamento terrestre, motorizado, fluvial e marítimo.

Fonte: Ministério da Defesa

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Interoperabilidade entre FAB e EB visa treinamento para as Olimpíadas*

O trabalho entre militares do Terceiro Grupo de Defesa Antiaérea (3º GDAAE), da Força Aérea Brasileira (FAB), e da Seção de Tiro do 11º Grupo de Artilharia Antiaérea (11º GAAAE), do Exército Brasileiro (EB), tem dois grandes objetivos: aprimorar as técnicas de defesa antiaérea em conjunto e contribuir para o preparo operacional nos Jogos Olímpicos Rio 2016. O treinamento acontece durante a Operação Sabre, que vai até o dia 30 de junho, na Base Aérea de Anápolis (BAAN), em Goiás.

Dentro do contexto de guerra simulada, com a participação de dois países rivais fictícios (Blue e Red Force), as unidades de defesa aérea pretendem proteger o alvo das aeronaves inimigas que tentam invadir o país hostil. As ações de defesa antiaérea no ponto sensível são coordenadas por um Centro de Operações, composto por 85 militares da FAB e do EB.

De acordo com o Comandante do 3º GDAAE, Major Flávio Schiatti, o treinamento é uma preparação para os Jogos Olímpicos, no Rio de Janeiro, em agosto. “O trabalho em conjunto ajuda a aprimorar a doutrina de defesa antiaérea, sendo assim, a FAB e o EB ganham”, declara.

Fonte: Ministério da Defesa

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Italy Reveals Innovations on New Naval Vessels

Por Tom Kington

ROME — The Italian Navy has released fresh details about its seven new, multifunctional ships as it seeks to wrap up a system design review (SDR) of the innovative vessels by the end of June.

As planners mull the use of a Google Glass-type kit for navigators on the bridge, they have also opted for a so-called wave piercing bow, which is expected to add almost a knot in speed.

With industry contracts signed last year thanks to a €5.4 billion (US \$6.1 billion) funding package, the Navy now hopes it is on course to have its seven, 4,500-ton, 133-meter-long vessels delivered between 2021 and 2026.

Conceived with a hefty input from the Navy's own design office, the vessels will be given dual role capabilities to help assist in civilian disaster operations or the interception of migrants in the Mediterranean, as well as fight wars.

The SDR is set to be completed by the end of this month — with some fine tuning on genset options to be made — and a critical design review is planned for February, an Italian defense source said.

Before then, steel cutting on the first ship by state-controlled shipbuilding yard Fincantieri is expected in the autumn.

In the meantime, the Navy teamed with Italian defense magazine *Rivista Italiana Difesa* this month to produce a special issue unveiling details of the design of the ships, which are known by their Italian acronym PPA, starting with an unusual looking sharp protrusion out from the bow near the water level.

“This simply extends the length of the vessel at the waterline, improving wave resistance without increasing the dimensions of the ship,” the source said. “We think this technique is a first for a naval ship.”

The technique was developed by Fincantieri and first used on a Swedish ferry the firm built, according to *Rivista Italiana Difesa*.

Fincantieri will build two PPA vessels in "Light" configuration, three in "Light Plus" configuration and two in "Full" configuration, with prices including ten years of logistic support ranging from about €430 million for the Light versions to €530 million for the Full versions.

All vessels will feature Leonardo-Finmeccanica's 127mm and 76mm naval guns as well as 25mm and 12.7mm guns. To house the rear-facing 76mm guns on top of a hangar, the Italian group has developed a lighter version of its standard model, known as the *Sovraponte*.

The Light Plus and Full versions will offer Aster 15 and 30 missiles.

The Light vessels will offer an X-band AESA radar, which uses four flat panels, giving a 360-degree view housed above the bridge. The Light Plus vessels will use a C-band radar, while the Full version will offer both C- and X-band radars, requiring eight panels to produce a single integrated radar image.

Much has been made of the unusual bridge on the PPA vessels, which was designed with help from naval aviators to resemble an aircraft's cockpit. On the PPA bridge, two navigators will sit in a protruding section resembling a cockpit, doing the work that eight navigators do on Italy's FREMM frigates, the source said.

Studies are underway to replicate the heads-up display of an aircraft in which data can be projected onto the windows of the bridge for the two navigators, indicating for example the depth of the water they can see through the windows.

Another plan is to develop Google Glass-type glasses linked to external cameras, which would allow navigators to have a 360-degree view of the outside of the ship.

“This type of study will likely continue beyond the critical design review next year,” the source said.

Much of the lobbying to secure the funding for the PPA vessels was undertaken by Navy Adm. Giuseppe De Giorgi, earning him kudos in the Navy but also attention from the media when he was placed under investigation earlier this year for corruption.

Magistrates suspected he had deliberately handed a contract to an entrepreneur who is the partner of the head of Italy’s industry ministry, who authorized the €5.4 billion in funds.

As news of the investigation broke, an anonymous dossier was sent to prosecutors accusing the admiral of spending funds on excessive entertaining.

De Gregori denied he had been seeking to win favors at the ministry and gave a blistering speech on June 22 in which he blasted his critics at a ceremony where he handed over control of the Navy to the service's new chief, Vice Adm. Walter Girardelli.

“Our navigation has not always been calm — you know what I am talking about,” he said, describing his years in office. The admiral then claimed "dark forces" had sent the dossier “in a bid to shape the future of the Navy.”

Fonte: Defense News

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Sweden, Finland Stress Defense Cooperation Ahead of Russian Visit

Por Gerard O'Dwyer

HELSINKI — Nordic unaligned states Sweden and Finland are to further deepen bilateral defense collaboration as part of a coordinated action to strengthen national defense systems and inject a greater level of stability into regional security.

The road map to closer military cooperation was discussed during a two-day Foreign And Security (FAS) summit hosted by Finland. The two-day meeting, which was attended by political leaders and senior security officials, ended Monday.

Russia's destabilizing influence in the region featured prominently during the summit meeting, which took place at the Finnish President Sauli Niinistö's summer residence at Naantali in southwest Finland.

The summit talks took place ahead of a planned meeting in Finland in July between Niinistö and Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin. The two leaders last met in Moscow in March.

Finland hopes to use the July meeting to build stronger political, trade and security relations with Russia. Relations between the two countries remain somewhat cool as Moscow continues to frown on Finland's deepening military relationship with NATO.

Moreover, the traditional predictability of regional security, particularly in the greater sweep of the Baltic Sea region, has been destabilized by Russia's illegal action to annex Crimea and the Kremlin's interventions in eastern Ukraine.

The scope of Finnish-Swedish defense collaboration is set to have a long reach and include the sharing of military infrastructure, common defense tasks such as combined air-patrols, and joint equipment procurements.

However, neither Finland nor Sweden has any immediate plans to negotiate a treaty-based military alliance, said Stefan Löfven, Sweden's prime minister.

"We will continue to improve military cooperation with Finland. We have no ambition that this will result in a defense alliance, and nor are we seeking it," Löfven said.

Despite the lack of a formal defense treaty, Löfven said Sweden is prepared to defend Finland against hostile attack, if needed, in the name of Nordic "solidarity."

The Finnish-Swedish meeting took place against a backdrop of the Finnish government's new Foreign and Security Policy Report. This underlines Finland's retention of its nonalignment policy status while keeping the strategic option of possible NATO membership as a fall-back position.

"Finland must, in our foreign and security policy, prepare for rapid and even unpredictable changes in our operating environment. We do not have the option or desire to isolate ourselves," Finnish Foreign Minister Timo Soini said.

The report holds that Russia's annexation of Crimea, and its actions in Eastern Ukraine, "constitute a major shift in European security."

"In light of the security situation in our vicinity, the use or threat of military force against Finland cannot be excluded," according to the report. It also cited "increasing radicalization and uncontrolled migration" as new threats to the security and stability of the Nordic and Baltic regions.

Soini described the use of bilateral and multilateral defense cooperation tools as reinforcing Finland's ability to maintain, develop and optimize its defense capacity.

Apart from sharing military infrastructure, defense deepening with Sweden will also include more regular multi-branch exercises and exchanging situational intelligence, according to Finnish Prime Minister Juha Sipilä.

"The basis for our military cooperation with Sweden will be focused on realistic goals and follow a concrete framework," Sipilä said.

The general consensus reached at the Naantali summit was that while the security picture in the greater Baltic region is destabilized, Russia does not pose a direct security threat to either Finland or Sweden.

"Russia presents no concrete, clearly discernible threat to our security," Niinistö said.

This situational appraisal by both Sweden and Finland, said Löfven, contributes to Sweden's view that joining NATO is not an option for the unaligned Nordic country at the present time.

"Sweden has lived in peace for centuries and we intend to do so for at least another 200 years. We seek predictability and long-term development in our immediate vicinity. NATO membership is not timely," Löfven said.

Löfven stressed that while maintaining good relations with Russia remains an important goal for Sweden, the underlying conditions for "normalizing relations" will remain lacking so long as "Russia behaves as it has done in Crimea and elsewhere in Ukraine."

In April, a Finnish expert group presented a strategic assessment of the probable consequences were Finland to join NATO. The report concluded that the optimum scenario, in terms of maintaining good relations with Russia, would be if Finland and Sweden jointly decided on the issue of full NATO membership.

"The threat from Russia is sometimes over exaggerated. Our defense forces and systems are in good shape, and we have strong partners, especially Sweden. We intend to develop these relationships further," said Antti Rinne, chairman of Finland's Social Democratic Party.

According to Rinne, Finland has a clear objective to secure its national borders and security in collaboration with regional and European defense partners, including the European Union, the United States, NATO and Sweden.

The Naantali summit did expose one possible bone of contention between Finland and Sweden over Russia: Swedish MP Karin Enström, a former minister of defense, questioned the long-term value of next month's meeting between the Russian and Finnish presidents.

"We in Sweden find the meeting somewhat difficult to understand. We understand that Finland has a special relationship with Russia but wonder if the visit has an actual security benefit," said Enström, who is both deputy chair of the Swedish parliament's Committee on Foreign Affairs and a member of the parliament's delegation to the NATO Parliamentary Assembly.

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