

PELARG/15TH MEU EXERCISE RED REEF
SAUDI ARABIA BRAVO COMMAND ELEMENT (02-18 JAN 2013)
FAS: GYSGT HODGES



•Pictures of the 15 MEU FAS teaching CAOCL Saudi Arabian briefs and Arabic classes in the chaplain's briefing room.

Language Training

- Facilitated LREC capabilities throughout MEU routines and TSC efforts to promote awareness of the FAS program.
- Provide briefs to include culture information, smart cards, and language material from CAOCL.
- The Modern Standard Arabic (MSA) language class.



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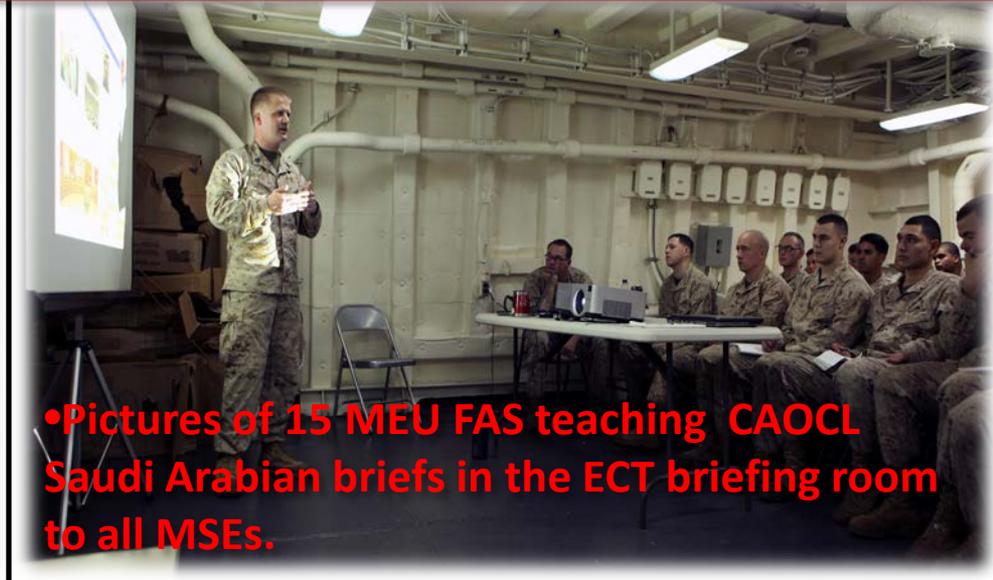


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SJS, and 15 MEU RO.

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• Pictures of 15 MEU FAS teaching CAOCL Saudi Arabian briefs in the ECT briefing room to all MSEs.

Cultural Training

- Supported the ARG by providing LREC products and capabilities focusing on PMESII/ASCOPE, to 3rd Battalion 5th Marines (3/5), and other Major Subordinate Elements.
- Cultural training from the FAS enhanced understanding of our allies and how to deal with specific situations.
- Educate Marines how to build rapport through daily interaction.
- Promote mutual cooperation in CENTCOM theater.



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•Pictures of BLT staff, RSNF, and 15 MEU FAS discussing FINEX.

FAS Activities

- Dec 21 - Jan 3, provided CAOCL Saudi Arabia classes and Modern Standard Arabic (MSA) classes to the 15 MEU (India, Lima, Wpns, Arty Bravo Battery).
- Jan 3, Offload. Continued to provide LREC classes to 15 MEU elements (Weapons Company, CBRN, and Senior members of the BLT).
- Jan 4-6, KLEs with Saudi Arabian forces. Met with Saudi Arabia MCTM. Set perimeters as the LNO at JOC with Saudi forces. Supported the BLT with LREC capabilities. Strong demand for language capability. Transitioned to the Saudi Camp as the 15 MEU LNO.



•Picture with BLT BC, BLT OPSO, RSNF counterparts and the 15 MEU FAS.

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•Picture with RSNF's military enlisted.



•Picture with RSNF's VIPs, and the 15 MEU FAS.

FAS Activities

- Jan 7, supported JOC. Provided Arabic classes to the Saudi forces.
- Jan 8, supported JOC. Participated in KLEs. Met several senior Saudi staff officers.
- Jan 9, supported JOC. Participated in live fire coordination for FINEX. Traveled with senior Saudi training officer (Col Ouada), to support during live fire coordination. Assisted in coordinating PAO to access PAO photos for Saudi viewing, per Col Ouada's request.



•Picture with RSNF VIPs, Col Clark (MCTM KSA), 15th MEU XO, and the 15 MEU FAS.

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•Picture of General Ali Mohammed Hashaby.



•Picture of General Abdulla Shieban Al Tiebi (Commander Navy and Marine Corps).

FAS Activities

- Jan 10, continued to work at the JOC. Participated in a Saudi brief for a proposed new Saudi military vehicle presentation. Invited to inspect the vehicle and discussed it's capabilities with the manufacturing company's representatives.
- Jan 11-15, supported the VIP visit to the USS Green Bay. Assisted in translation and coordination of movement throughout the ship. Met with Col Clark (Chief, Marine Forces Division U. S. Military Training Mission), discussed about future FAS support. Supported FINEX and ending ceremony.



Picture of the General Al Tiebi, R admiral Lescher (ESG 5), and counterparts.

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Recommendations

At least one FAS Marine should be considered to support TSCs, focusing on BLT support. Future FAS Marines could also attach to the ADVON. One FAS makes a difference. Multiple FAS Marines could better support the MEUs in multiple locations, augmenting multiple MSEs, and providing LREC expertise in multiple regions.



•Picture of the 15 MEU FAS in the new RSNF military vehicle.



Picture with General Humais al-Subai'i (Eastern Fleet Marine Corps Commander) and Col Clark (Chief, Marine Forces Division U. S. Military Training Mission).

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•Picture of the 15 MEU FAS translating for the Operations Chief during a COC tour.



•Picture of the 15 MEU FAS translating for the Assistant Operations Officer during a COC training.

RSNF Classes

- Provided Arabic classes to the Saudi forces. The classes primarily focused on COC SOP for the MEU. After classes were completed at Saudi camp, the Saudi forces visited the BLT's COC; where I assisted in efforts in explaining BLT SOP's and daily operations.



•Picture of the 15 MEU FAS translating during a COC tour.

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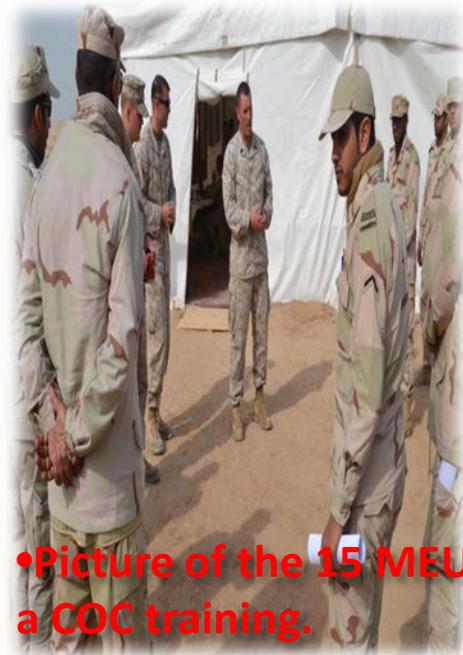
•Picture of RSNF VIP lunch, I was offered the goat's eyeball.



•Picture with RSNF Sgt Maj equivalent and 15 MEU FAS.

KLEs

- I met with different members of the RSNF. Particularly, I worked with RSNF officers. While at the JOC, I was invited to several gatherings to discuss politics, economics, and current events.
- During these KLEs, I was able to build personal rapport and expand my acceptance within the RSNF in the spirit of public diplomacy. I made personal friendships with several of the RSNF officers and enlisted.



•Picture of the 15 MEU FAS translating during a COC training.



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•Picture with Weapons Company, RSNF counterparts, and 15 MEU FAS.



•Picture of RSNF Commissioned Officers and 15 MEU FAS.



Summary

The overall mission was a success. All training expectations were met. The Saudi's experience was positive. The 15th MEU accomplished its mission to reinforce strategic defense cooperation by strengthening bilateral relationships between KSA and the United States.

The 15 MEU FAS supported all levels of training. The main effort to facilitate public diplomacy by way of advising, teaching, and supporting with LREC was accomplished. The programs success is measured in the MEU's staff request for support.



•Picture of RSNF Non-Commissioned Officers and 15 MEU FAS.

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