



Above: Saudi Marines conducting a beach assault

"The ranges at Wadi SIRR allowed us to conduct complex live firing in the littoral environment, especially from the sea into land, something which is nearly impossible to achieve in the UK.

"I am delighted that the five days together were so successful and that for the first time in the recent past conventional UK Land Forces were able to exercise in the desert of Saudi Arabia with our Saudi colleagues. It does present real opportunities for the future which are very welcome but most importantly it amply demonstrated, and further developed, the close relationship we have between our two Armed Forces."



C Company, 40 Commando Royal Marines, patrol through sand dunes

The TAURUS 09 Task Group aims to maintain the Royal Navy's fighting capability as well as develop the UK's capacity to operate with key partners and allies from NATO countries and other nations, enhancing interoperability and demonstrating the UK's commitment to the stability and security of the Mediterranean, Middle East and South East Asia. In exercising its ability to deploy globally, the Task Group will remain available for a range of potential missions as required, such as anti-piracy, humanitarian aid and disaster relief.

The Task Group is currently conducting Phase Two of the deployment in the Indian Ocean. Riverine training will shortly take place with the Bangladeshi Navy, the first such interaction in more than a decade. The deployment will culminate in an intense, multi-unit, multi-national training package in the primary jungles of Brunei.