

## ☆ IKENEWS

# CSADD EDUCATES IKE ON DESTRUCTIVE DECISIONS

BY MC3 NEO B. GREENE III



USS Dwight D. Eisenhower's (CVN 69) Coalition of Sailors Against Destructive Decisions (CSADD) meets in the ship's chapel. Photo by MC3 Ashley M.C. Estrella.

The Coalition of Sailors Against Destructive Decisions (CSADD) USS Dwight D. Eisenhower (CVN 69) chapter is implementing alternative activities to inspire Sailors to make positive choices.

Ike's CSADD creates events to aid in the prevention of damaging behavior. On April 25, CSADD held officer turnover, bringing new senior members to aid in CSADD's mission to provide military members with prevention and intervention tools, like advice sessions, peer support and command-approved events to deal with the issues of preventing drinking, reckless driving and other destructive decisions.

"CSADD is a command organization built around trying to give Sailors a right sense of direction," said Logistics Specialist 3rd Class Edward Dawson, the new CSADD President. "A lot of a Sailors' attitude depends on the crowd you surround yourself with. We try to give Sailors a way to make sure that crowd is more constructive."

Dawson said CSADD plans to hold meetings and public forums to educate Ike Sailors on preventing destructive decisions or getting

Yeoman 2nd Class Sharetta Robinson, CSADD's community relations (COMREL) coordinator, said they are in the early stages

of planning COMRELs but are looking for volunteers to educate kids in the Adopt-A-School program and to build homes for the

"We did a COMREL where we went and helped the homeless," said Robinson. "If we can get Sailors choose to help with a COMREL, that's a win. That's the kind of stuff we try to do in

"Sailors can get a lot out of participating in our COMRELs and the events we do around the ship," said Bounds. "A lot of the COMRELs that we do create a sense of purpose for some of them and the people that we help are always grateful."

When Sailors influence each other, it creates a more constructive environment for the crew, said Dawson. CSADD wants Sailors to know anyone can become a member and help others.

"Everything we do comes back to 'shipmates helping shipmates," said Dawson. "We do all of this to help one another and anyone is welcome to join. If someone needs to reach out, we'll help them out with whatever it may be and gladly welcome them into our coalition."

## IKE MANS THE GUNS

BY MC3 ANDREW WATERS



Aviation Ordnanceman 3rd Class Kaleb Harding, left, from Tampa, Fla., and Aviation Ordnanceman 3rd Class Sebastian Coats, from Indianapolis prepare a .50-caliber machine gun on the catwalk during a weapons training exercise. Photo by MC3 Sophie Pinkham.

Sailors aboard USS Dwight D. Eisenhower (CVN 69) have many systems in place to protect the ship. If these systems fail, Sailors from Ike's weapons and security departments man gun mounts as the ship's last line of defense.

Ike and its crew could face a threat at any time. Gun quarters can be called away when entering or exiting a port if a hostile enemy is approaching the ship.

Gun quarters is a joint evolution between Ike's weapons and security departments are when going in and out of port, during highrisk transits and if a threat is received.

"Whenever gun quarters is called we have to stop everything and respond within five minutes," said Gunner's Mate 2nd Class Joseph Lester, a member of Ike's weapons department. "We have to get to the mount, get set-up and get ready to fight."

are scanning their assigned areas for any sign

of aggression.

"We are trying to establish [a contact's] capability, opportunity and intent, which is what determines the actions we take," said Chief Gunner's Mate William Miller.

If a contact crosses into certain zones, the gunnery liaison officer (GLO) and antiterrorism team watch officer (ATTWO) will issue orders for warning shots, kill shots or holding fast depending on the situation.

"We are the last line of defense to protect the ship from harm," said Miller.

Being in a stressful yet highly important situation like this requires a lot of training on both proper usage of weapons and potential

"We train by repetition, breaking down the weapons systems, learning them and implementing drills," said Master-at-Arms 1st Class David Stone, Ike's Security department Any time gun quarters is manned, Sailors training leading petty officer. "Having handson experience also helps a lot for knowing

what to do and keeping your cool."

Ike's weapons and security departments train their Sailors to deal with hot-gun misfires, jams and other scenarios built around weapon failures during general quarters drills.

"If you aren't trained properly and the gun jams, if you try to fix it incorrectly it could blow up," said Lester. "Everything dealing with guns comes back to training."

As proof of the training's effectiveness Sailors behind the mounts during gun quarters have performed their duties without a weapon-related injury for more than five

As Ike continues through the basic phase and becomes deployment-ready, Sailors will continue to ensure the ship and its crew remain safe and secure no matter what threats come their way.















#### U.S. MILITARY, ALLIES IN ROMANIA STAGE LARGEST-EVER COMBINED NATO MEDICAL EXERCISE

BY JENNIFER H. SVAN, STARS AND STRIPES



Hospital Corpsmen Quintin Benkovitz, left, and Christopher Acosta, both students with Field Medical Training Battalion West (FMTB-W), transport a simulated casualty to a casualty evacuation area during a patient assessment drill as part of the Field Medical Service Technician course at the FMTB-W Field Training Area, Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton, California.

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany — If a war broke out in Europe or the Continent saw another disaster on the scale of the Chernobyl nuclear meltdown, military and civilian medics with NATO and partner nations would likely be called to the front lines, jointly treating the wounded.

They're already preparing for such scenarios, and this month, 2,500 medical personnel from 39 nations drilled at four different locations in Romania as part of Vigorous Warrior, the largest combined NATO medical exercise ever staged.

U.S. military participants included, for the first time, the 86th Medical Group at Ramstein Air Base, Navy medical specialists and a handful of soldiers from Europe. The Ramstein unit sent about 50 airmen and its mobile field hospital to Cincu Military Base, a mission that involved hauling 16 pallets of equipment in flatbed trucks across much of Europe.

Once set up, the airmen triaged and treated simulated combat injuries in a collective scenario, officials said.

"It was basically large NATO against an adversary," said Col. Michael Roberts, 86th Medical Group commander. "We were behind the line of conflict," taking patients from the point of injury on the battlefield to the field hospital for treatment.

"We had patients that coded," Roberts said, referring to a slang medical term for heart failure. Others turned up with simulated chemical burns or probable radiological exposure.

The NATO Center of Excellence for Military Medicine, the Romanian Armed Forces General Staff and the Romanian Ministry of National Defense Medical Directorate organized the two-week event in the first half of April.

The exercise included NATO drills on the Black Sea and in Bucharest — Romania's capital and largest city — where civilian and military emergency responders staged the evacuation of 200 people injured in a mock attack on one of the city's subway stations.

"There's all these unknowns that we deal with on this globe," said Col. Bradley Nielsen, U.S. Air Forces in Europe – Air Forces Africa deputy command surgeon. The U.S. military, he said, "can't do it all ... we have to ask partner nations to assist us."

Vigorous Warrior exposed nations' medical strengths and, in some cases, weaknesses — useful information in the event of an international medical emergency. The Czech Republic, for example, stood up a very capable chemical response team, Nielsen said. "You can definitely go back in your little ledger and say, 'Hey, this country did awesome."

In a real combat scenario in Europe, it's almost certain Ramstein's medical capabilities would be needed. Its modular field hospital is designed to be deployed and fully operational within six hours of arrival at its destination, Roberts said.

In the Defense Department, "we're the fastest medical capability into a contingency environment,"

The exercise allowed airmen to practice quickly deploying their field hospital, consisting of five tents, an operating table and a mix of trauma, intensive care and holding beds. But it also gave them much-needed practice using their emergency medical skills in an austere environment.

"When we started the exercise, I asked the team how many of them had deployed in a setting of trauma patients and only seven people raised their hands out of the 49 we have here," Chief Master Sgt. Amy Riley, 86th Medical Group group superintendent, said in a statement. "I think one of the lessons learned for them is the ability to move outside a clinical setting, which is very controlled, into a very uncontrolled environment ... pushing them outside their comfort zone."

Romanian military personnel posed as patients, sporting realistic-looking mock wounds from gunshots and broken bones, Nielsen said.

"You can never replicate what you see out on the battlefield or in an emergency room ... but I think they did a fantastic job of creating an environment that was stressful," he said of the Romanians.

Near the end of the exercise, U.S. and Romanian medical personnel swapped places, with the Romanians working in the U.S. field hospital and the U.S. surgical team training in the Romanian facility.

It took some time "to get the processes squared away, but at the end of the day we could work at saving patients collectively as a team," Roberts said.

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#### ON THE COVER:

Sailors unload cargo in the hangar bay during a replenishment-at-sea. Photo by MC3 Sophie Pinkham.



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