

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE City of Duluth Communications Office

411 West First Street, Duluth, Minnesota 55802 218-730-5230 | www.duluthmn.gov | Don Ness, Mayor

For more information contact Pakou Ly, Public Information Coordinator 218-730-5309 or Amy Norris, Public Information Coordinator 218-730-4312

DATE: 08/18/2011

SUBJECT: MARITIME ANTI-TERRORISM FULL-SCALE EXERCISE, SECURITY TRAINING SET FOR PORT OF DULUTH-SUPERIOR

BY: Pakou Ly, Public Information Coordinator

MARITIME ANTI-TERRORISM FULL-SCALE EXERCISE, SECURITY TRAINING SET FOR PORT OF DULUTH-SUPERIOR

DULUTH, Minn. -- A multi-agency full-scale exercise and maritime security training and exercise program called *Operation Down Under* is scheduled to take place Wednesday, August 24, 2011 in the Port of Duluth-Superior.

U.S. Coast Guard Marine Safety Unit Duluth, in coordination with the transportation industry, the States of Minnesota and Wisconsin, local law enforcement agencies and fire and emergency management agencies will conduct a full scale underwater terrorism response exercise at various pre-designated sites within the Duluth-Superior area.

The exercise scenario is not based on any specific credible threat to the Port of Duluth-Superior. The U.S. Coast Guard and its state and local area partners conduct emergency preparedness and response exercises every year as part of established strategies to build response capabilities and improve readiness levels for first responders.

Planning, training and exercising are important components of the nation's homeland security strategy. The 2011 *Operation Down Under* full-scale exercise is a part of the Area Maritime Security Training and Exercise Program and the National Preparedness for Response Exercise Program. The goal of the exercise is to validate current processes in the Western Lake Superior Area Maritime Security Plan and the Underwater Terrorism Preparedness Plan.

Individuals may see Coast Guard assets carrying mounted automatic weapons during the of th eexercise. In a place as strategically important as the Port of Duluth-Superior - critical to the economic vitality of not just Minnesota but the entire Great Lakes - armed waterborne patrols are a key part of the Coast Guard's ability to defend others and itself in response to maritime security threats. The Coast Guard routinely carries mounted automatic weapons when and where appropriate as part of its mission to detect, deter, and disrupt maritime threats to the people and infrastructure of our Great Lakes. This is not a live-fire training exercise. The Coast Guard does not conduct any live-fire training on the Great Lakes. It trains its crews in the use of these weapons at a Department of Defense facility outside of the Great Lakes region.

Activities scheduled throughout the Duluth-Superior area include marine dive operations and other under-water technologies; and water patrols available for viewing throughout the day.

Representatives with the media are requested to check in and register for credentialing between 9:45 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. at the Edge Hotel (2400 London Road, Duluth, MN) in the Catamaran Conference Room. An overview presentation of the exercise will take place, followed by photo and interview opportunities.

Media concerns and questions can be directed to Lt.Edward Mosley, with the U.S. Coast Guard Marine Safety Unit Duluth at 218-720-5286, ext 9-138, or to Pakou Ly, Public Information Coordinator with the City of Duluth at (218) 730-5309.

Maritime anti-terrorism full-scale exercise, security training set for Port of Duluth-Superior Page 1 of 2





News Release

Date: August 18, 2011 Costac: North Count Quart Descript Public Alfabra Office (216) 902-6030

Maritime auti-terrorism full-scale exercise, security training set for Port of Duluth-Superior

DULUTE, Miss. — A multi-agency, full-scale exercise and markines security making and exercise program called Operation Device Under in scheduled in take place Wednesday, Aug. 24, 2011, in the Port of Dubath-Superior.

Cost Guard Marian Saliny Unit Dubals, in coordination with the transportation industry, the states of Minesons and Wisconsin, local law embrusement, fire and emergency management agencies will conduct a full scale underwater terrorism response executes at various pre-designated stem within the Dubath-Superior area.

The exercise scenario is not based on any specific credible threat to the Part of Dukuth-Superior. The Cost: Guard and its stars and local area partners conduct emergency proposedness and response exercises every year as pan of readablished emergies in both response capabilities and improve readiness levels for fixer responders.

Planning, training and exercising are important components of the nation's homeland socrary strategy. The 20(1) Operation Down Under full-culti-curricule is a part of the Area Maritime Society Training and Exercise Program and the National Proproaches for Engoques Exercise Program. The gate of the exercise is to wisides is carried processes in the Western Lake Superior Area Maritime Society Plan and the Underwater Tamorium Proposeduces Plan.

Individuals may see Creat Goard assets carrying mounted automatis weapons during the coase of the essentiae, in a place as sistentificably important as the Port of Dulath Superior - critical to the encosonic visibles of and year Manassants to the entire Osea Lakes - memod warderines pursue as a skey part of the Custo Chaud's shifting of an input different orders and Inself in response to inselfine security threats. The Cose Chaud's said critical contents are also a facility to defined others and Inself in response to inselfine security threats. The Cose Chaud's said contents of the contents of the Cose Chaud's said contents of the cose of the inselfine of decre, clear, and diverge marchine threats to the people and inflastracture of our Great Lakes. This is not a love fire training energies. The Cose Goard does not consider any live-first training on the Great Lakes. It is not a love fire training energies, the Cose Goard does not consider any live-first training on the Great Lakes. It is not a love for the use of these weapons at a Department of Defines facility outside of the Clays Lakes region.

Activities scheduled floroughout the Dishath Superior area include: marine dive operations and other under-water technologies, as well as water patents, which will be available for viewing throughout the day.

Modia representatives are requested to check to and register for credentialing between 945 a.m. and 3815 a.m. at the Edge Horel CNO Leadon Road, Dokuly, Menn. J. in the Casanassan Conference Rosen. An everview preventation of the extensive will have place, Solives of by plane and interview opportunities.

Media concerns and quantions can be directed to Paken Ly, public information coordinator, City of Delath, at 218-730-3399 and questions regarding Coast Guard operations can be directed to Lr. Edward Minsley, MSII Delath policypore, at 218-72-5258, etc. 8-138.

Sening Live and Guarding the Coast Story 1796. The United States Coast Guard - Prood Mistery. Percental Fatters.



https://www.piervestem.com/go/doc/443/11649237previewDraftID=2037171 08/18/2011