



EXERCISE DARRANDARRA

COMMUNITY INFORMATION SHEET

The Australian Defence Force and US Marines will conduct a friendly training exercise at the Nhulunbuy NORFORCE compound and Gove Airport, Arnhem Land from 11 to 18 June.

Approximately 180 - 200 personnel will participate in the exercise.

Exercise Darrandarra is important because it will train our forces to deploy and support people overseas if required.

The exercise is designed to limit impact on the Nhulunbuy community, with most of the activities taking place inside the NORFORCE compound. Military vehicles will move between the compound and airport, with minor disruption to traffic.

The Australian Army and US Marines act in accordance with COVIDSAFE protocols in the Northern Territory, and all US Marines have been subject to strict screening and quarantine requirements on arrival to Australia and health checks prior to this exercise.

The Australian Army and US Marines will also bring their own medical capability so as to avoid any impact on local facilities.

Exercise Darrandarra will feature the use of MV-22B Osprey aircraft coming and going from the area throughout the training. You may see troops in combat outfits however there will be no live or blank ammunition used in the training scenarios.

The Australian Army has been part of the Arnhem Land community for almost 100 years.

Contacts

Community Enquiries: Dan Gosling, daniel.gosling1@defence.gov.au

Media Enquiries: Todd Fitzgerald todd.fitzgerald4@defence.gov.au



MV-22B Osprey which will be used to transport US Marines into Nhulunbuy. The landing zones will be at the Nhulunbuy South Oval for the exercise and Hindle Oval for the community day.



Air Movements

11 June 3:45 pm – A Royal Australian Air Force C130 Hercules military aircraft will deliver personnel and at the Gove Airport. Approximately 40 Troops will move to the NORFORCE depot.

12 June 11:30 am & 4:00 pm – United States Marine Corps MV22 Osprey helicopters will land at Gove airport. Troops will move to the NORFORCE depot

14 June 11:30 am & 4:10 pm – United States Marine Corps MV22 Osprey helicopters will land at South oval (Isal St). For safety, public access to the South Oval will be restricted at these times. Aircraft will be present for approximately 20 minutes each time. Troops will move on foot to the NORFORCE depot.

17 June 11:30 am & 4:10 pm – United States Marine Corps MV22 Osprey helicopters will depart Gove Airport. **7:00pm** A Royal Australian Air Force C130 Hercules military aircraft will collect troops from Gove Airport.

18 June 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm United States Marine Corps MV22 Osprey helicopter will land at Hindle 2 oval for a community event where Nhulunbuy residents can see it up close. It will depart on completion.

Road Closures

15-17 June 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Arnhem Rd from corner of Arnhem Rd and Beagle cct to the entrance of G3 on Arnhem Rd will be closed to vehicles and a traffic barricade setup.

Troops will be nearby the traffic barricades to provide communications only.

Pedestrian traffic along the road on the opposite side of the street from the NORFORCE Depot would not interfere with the exercise.

Personnel transiting along Arnhem Rd would observe military training actions within the NORFORCE Depot and Role Players acting as protesters on the road during this time.

Community Day

18 June - 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm Nhulunbuy residents are invited to meet the troops and see a United States Marine Corps MV22 Osprey helicopter up close on the Hindle 2 oval. COVID protocols apply to this event.

All times are approximate.