



Media Note  
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## United States Hosts Proliferation Security Initiative Interdiction Exercise

October 30-31, 25 countries will participate in the Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI) interdiction training exercise, Leading Edge. This is the first PSI exercise held in the Persian Gulf, and the first since the adoption of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1718, and included the participation of Japan and South Korea. The United States appreciates the leadership of Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar and the UAE to ensure that the Gulf States will actively prevent the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, their delivery systems, and related materials.

Through this exercise responsible nations from the region and around the globe are demonstrating their resolve to work together to stop the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. Australia, Bahrain, France, Italy, the United Kingdom and the United States provided operational assets for the live exercise phase including ships, aircraft and special teams to improve our combined capabilities to interdict shipments of proliferation concern and deter those who would trade in materials for such weapons.

The following countries are participating: Australia, Bahrain, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Iraq, Italy, Japan, Kuwait, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Russia, Singapore, South Korea, Spain, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States

For additional information on the Proliferation Security Initiative, please see <http://www.state.gov/t/isn/c10390.htm>

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