

Inzpire Limited Supports the Latest Iteration of RAF's Capstone Training event, Exercise COBRA WARRIOR

TUESDAY 27 SEP 2022: Collective training experts from 92 Squadron (Sqn) Inzpire White Force, supported by Inzpire's Space Division, have recently delivered Exercise (Ex) COBRA WARRIOR 22-2.

Ex COBRA WARRIOR 22-2 is the RAF's capstone event and marks the culmination of the Qualified Weapons Instructor courses.

The annual exercise, run by Royal Air Force and Inzpire personnel embedded within 92 Sqn at RAF Waddington, focuses on integrating weapons instructor courses and front-line units and exercising them in their warfighting roles alongside key allies.

The exercise develops tactical interoperability amongst international partners, allowing them to focus combined effects against a peer adversary and develop both air-land and air-maritime integration.

Inzpire's subject matter experts have been vital to the planning, design and execution of Exercise COBRA WARRIOR for many years. The company's white force team has several decades' experience in intelligence, command and control, combat air power and aggressor threat replication all of which are critical skills for the delivery of such an exercise.

Owing to the operational focus of 92 Sqn with invasion of Ukraine, the Inzpire team embedded within the Sqn has been at the heart of the latest iteration Ex COBRA WARRIOR, and has delivered the largest exercise in UK airspace in over two years.

Experts from across Inzpire spent six months preparing for the exercise: liaising with all of the participants to ensure that their training needs would be met; working on all aspects of the exercise from simple organisational tasks through to high-end scenario construction; and liaising with civilian landowners in order to position surface-to-air missile systems on private land.

Inzpire personnel produced all of the mission products including ultra-realistic target packs and representative strategic direction from the Joint Force Commander and assisted in resolving the highly complex IT infrastructure needed to plan, execute and debrief across multiple locations.

In addition, Inzpire's highly experienced ex-military space instructors provided subject matter and training expertise to the UK Space Command's Qualified Space Instructor Course during the exercise by planning, integrating and executing space operations.

This version of the exercise saw the introduction of a Combat Intelligence Cell for the first time. Over 400 intelligence documents were produced to create an immersive and realistic scenario, enabling intelligence staff to rehearse filtering important information and providing it to other participants.

Exercise COBRA WARRIOR 22-2 was a truly international affair, with participants flying into the UK from all over the world to take part. The Italian Air Force sent its weapons instructor course with six EF2000s, a 767 tanker and a G550 CAEW Command and Control aircraft. The German Air Force – Luftwaffe - sent six ECR Tornados to conduct suppression of enemy air defence missions.

The United States Air Forces in Europe (USAFE) sent three HH-60G Pavehawk helicopters to practise joint personnel recovery and helicopter integration, as well as eight F-16CMs from Aviano. Two B-52s from continental America participated and practised force integration and dynamic targeting. On top of this impressive array of combat air power, USAFE also participated with F-15Es and for the first time

the F-35A – a highly potent fifth-generation fighter from the 495th Fighter Squadron which has only recently arrived in the UK.

Adding to this powerful mix were NATO E-3As and Typhoons, F-35Bs, Chinooks, Wildcats, Merlins, Apaches, Voyagers, A-400Ms, US MC-130s and from military airfields across Britain.

In all, around 80 aircraft participated in a number of challenging missions covering all aspects of modern warfare. Missions included: air policing; surface attack; airborne interdiction; ISR; non-kinetic effects; space; air-land integration; air-maritime integration; and both reactive and planned joint personnel recovery.

On the ground, two American air support operations squadrons deployed into the field and gave real-world updates on the movement of convoys through Northumberland to allow combat air to rehearse targeting. They also supported helicopter assaults teams in rehearsing the capture of high-value individuals.

Concurrently, HMS Defender took part in an integrated air and missile defence mission to exercise air-maritime integration.

Because of its size, the exercise was run from multiple separate locations including RAF Waddington, RAF Leeming and RAF Boulmer, which simulated the likely situation in a real-world campaign with force elements operating from disparate locations.

Inzpire's Head of Collective Training Division Richard Tattersall said: *"Delivering such a complex exercise over three locations with participants from across the globe has been an incredible challenge but an intensely satisfying one for my team."*

"We offer some of the best large force exercise training in the world and are very proud to deliver this as part of the 92 Squadron Whole Force."

Wing Commander Phil Abbott BSc RAF said: *"92 Squadron's Whole Force has just delivered Exercise COBRA WARRIOR 22-2."*

"This was the RAF's capstone exercise, providing training across all domains of modern warfighting against a near-peer threat. Participants came from across Europe and the US to practice multi-domain integration and demonstrate NATO's air power."

"The exercise witnessed the culmination of many RAF Qualified Weapons Instructor courses, with the graduates returning to front line units with the expertise required to provide cutting edge tactical leadership."

Inzpire's Collective Training Division

Inzpire's Collective Training division has over 10 years' experience of successful, partnered collective training delivery with the UK Ministry of Defence. The division has designed and delivered over 300 live and synthetic exercises and provided operationally realistic training to over 10,000 frontline personnel. Our collective training teams are currently embedded in the RAF's Air Battlespace Training Centre, Air and Space Warfare Centre and Typhoon Operational Conversion Unit, where we deliver joint collective training to Armed Forces personnel from both the UK and overseas.

Inzpire Limited

Founded in 2005, Inzipire is a multi-award-winning supplier of advanced defence training, technical services and cutting-edge mission systems. The company is a trusted partner of the UK MOD and employs highly experienced former military personnel who work alongside defence engineers and business professionals to deliver operationally credible solutions to military, private and public sector customers. Find out more at www.inzipire.com.

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***Image: German Air Force C130 arriving for Exercise COBRA WARRIOR.
MoD Crown Copyright 2022, Sgt Nicholas Howe RAF.***



***Image: Italian Air Force arriving for Exercise COBRA WARRIOR.
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Interview Requests

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