

Weekly Intelligence Brief

A Chanticleer Intelligence Brief Project



The Drug Enforcement Administration Issues a Public Safety Alert for the Continental United States

Noah Ankenbrand

Analyst
Americas Desk

The United States Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) has issued a Public Safety Alert for the Continental United States for the widespread threat of the drug known as the “Zombie Drug.” The “Zombie Drug” is a mixture of Fentanyl and Xylazine. Xylazine, more commonly referred to as “Tranq,” is an approved drug under the DEA for use in veterinary use, however reports suggest misuse of the drug in combination with dangerous levels of Fentanyl. Reports mention that the “Zombie Drug” is being seen getting cut into other drugs, such as marijuana, cocaine, heroin, and prescription pills.

This mixture of Fentanyl and Xylazine poses a high risk of fatal drug poisoning,

Xylazine is not an opioid therefore, the traditional way to stop an overdose through the use of naloxone, more commonly known as Narcan, does not reverse the effect of the drug.

Users of the “Zombie Drug” have reported and been treated with severe wounds, skin rotting, respiratory issues and necrosis. Severe cases of “Zombie Drug” users have been recommended for amputation of infected areas of the body.

The DEA have stated that Sinaloa Cartel and Jalisco Cartel in Mexico are using chemicals, largely supplied by China, to create the “Zombie Drug” and are responsible for the trafficking of these illicit substances into local communities.

It is with high confidence that we can state that the “Zombie Drug” will

continue to threaten the United States population. Furthermore, it is with high confidence that there will be an increase in “Zombie Drug” related death or significant bodily harm. Lastly, we can state with high confidence that use of the “Zombie Drug” will threaten local public safety due to Narcan’s inability to reverse the effect of the “Zombie Drug.”



Joint Naval Exercises Being Conducted off the Coast of South Africa

Jack Fruscello
Analyst
Africa Desk

In recent weeks, the Russian Federation, the People's Republic of China (PRC), and the Republic of South Africa (RSA) have been conducting joint naval exercises in the Indian Ocean off the coast of South Africa. These naval exercises come after RSA representatives publicly declared that they had a neutral stance on the Russo-Ukrainian War.

The South African National Defense Force stated that 350 members of its armed forces will participate in these naval exercises, while the Russian Federation has announced they will send its Admiral Gorshkov Class Frigate to the RSA for the exercises. The Admiral Gorshkov Class Frigate has the capability to carry Russian-made 3M22

Zircon hypersonic missiles. The missiles 3M22 Zircon hypersonic missiles can fly at nine times the speed of sound and have a range of 620 miles from launch.

Furthermore, as of 22 MAR, PRC representatives have reaffirmed their positive political partnership with the South African Native National Congress, the majority party in the RSA.

With the RSA's military, economic, and political partnerships growing closer to the Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China camps, the United States and its allies have raised security and geopolitical concerns. However, despite these concerns, we can state with high confidence that the Russian Federation, PRC, and RSA military, economic and political relations will remain. Moreover, we can state with high confidence that the RSA could end

its neutrality in the Russo-Ukraine War in favor of the Russian Federation if military, economic and political relations remain.



Greece and Türkiye Unite Over Recent Disasters

Ellie Simpson
Analyst
Europe Desk

Within the last two months, Greece and Türkiye have experienced hardships that unexpectedly have brought the two historically tense countries together. On 02 FEB 2023, Türkiye experienced a 7.8 magnitude earthquake that left more than 41,000 people dead. In response, Greece was one of the first countries to send humanitarian aid and provide public support for the Turkish people. Then, on 01 MAR 2023, Greece experienced a large head-on train collision in the central city of Larissa that killed 57 people. Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan sent messages of condolences to Greek President Katrina Sakellariopoulou and Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis after the incident.

Since then, on 22 MAR, the two governments have come together for the fourth round of Joint Action Plan discussions in Ankara, Türkiye. Deputy foreign ministers from Athens, Greece and Ankara, Türkiye discussed economic and trade issues, making a joint statement that "satisfactory progress has been achieved on several... items on the list." The Turkish Foreign Minister, Mevlut Cavusoglu, also noted that Turkey is in support of the Greek bid for non-permanent membership of the UN Security Council. Additionally, Cavusoglu met with his Greek counterpart, Nikos Dendias, and stated that Greece will in return support the Turkish bid for the International Maritime Organization's presidency. Therefore, we can state with moderate confidence that relations between the two will remain stable, despite long lasting political turmoil.



Editor-in-Chief
Lukas Delaney ('23)

Associate Editors
Sierra Mason ('24)
Tessa Bentley ('25)
Aubrey Belanger ('25)

For access to Full Articles and other Chanticleer Intelligence Brief Projects, visit our website

<https://cibrief.org/publications/wib/>

