



Ward



Want to get involved?

The involvement of the public is one of the most unique and valuable parts of this exercise. Very few countries have the privilege of exercising among their own population.

If you would like to play a role we are always looking for people to add to the realism by playing ordinary citizens of Bechara. You are welcome to talk to the soldiers – don't be shy.

The people of Ward are either mostly New Zealand "expatriates" working at a large oil and gas refinery in the area, or local "Akaroans". Most of the "expatriates" will be evacuated after a pretend attack on the oil facility early on.

If you would like to play an Akaroan and you do speak to a soldier please try to convey the following messages:

- You are not happy the foreigners were taken away and that you have been left behind.
- You are worried about the recent unrest in the country, particularly the attack on the oil facility.
- There have been strangers in town recently. They have been moving about very secretly. (If you spot our "bad guys" feel free to share what you know about them!).

What might I see?

Most of the activity in Ward is expected to take place from:

20 October - 5 November.

- During this time we expect approximately 100 soldiers to patrol in and around Ward.
- The soldiers will be armed and may occupy some key points nearby or set up checkpoints.
- A small group of "bad guys" will be sneaking about.
- A variety of international aircraft are likely to conduct flying in the area.
- Over 20-22 October, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFAT) staff and supporting soldiers will conduct a non-combatant evacuation (NEO) of the town using local volunteers.
- Some small-scale fighting may occur in the areas around Ward - and in the hills - but only in pre-determined areas - and only under the supervision of exercise control staff. This may involve blank firing and explosions.

Need Help? Got a question?

If you have any questions about the exercise, please feel free to ask any of our exercise control staff. You can identify them by the Southern Katipo logo (right) on their arm.

Alternatively, you can call our Public Affairs number 021 487 980

