
SWEDISH, POLISH FORCES SIMULATE DEFENCE OF GOTLAND AMID BALTIC TENSIONS

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Simon Johnson and Tom Little

The Swedish island of Gotland holds the key to control of the Baltic Sea, according to Swedish and Polish officers taking part in military exercises this week aimed at deterring a possible Russian attack amid escalating tensions between NATO and Moscow.

"It's basically like a huge aircraft carrier in the middle of the Baltic," Quartermaster Oscar Hannus of the Swedish Navy said, framed by one of Sweden's RBS-15 missile systems that would be used against any seaborne threat to the island.

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