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This product intended to provide strategic-level intelligence assessment of available information derived from multiple sources and domains, following the priority intelligence requirements (PIR) of CEMM (Chief of the Navy Staff) and to form the basis of intelligence support EMGAN (CTF 473) for POLARIS exercise.



Crisis Intelligence Package (CRIP) –V2

Road To Crisis (RTC)

Maps

As of 05 July 2021

Directorate Intelligence Fusion Centre (DIFC) **(simulated by EXCON)**

NATO UNCLASS RELEASABLE TO EXERCISE POLARIS 21

1. General overview of the geopolitical situation.....	5
2. Geopolitical Context and main Regional Actors	6
2.1 Historical review.....	6
2.3 SEPTIMANIA	7
2.4 SARDINIA.....	9
2.5 ICARIA.....	9
2.6 AKITANIA	10
2.7 IBERICA.....	11
2.8 OTSOE.....	11
2.9 MERCMANIA.....	12
3. Non-State and State-Sponsored Actors	13
3.1 The free Catharist Brotherhood (FCB)	13
3.2 The Catharist Action Front (CAF).....	13
3.3 The sons of “a Muvra” (SM).....	13
3.4 The Little Green Men (LGM)	14
3.5 Tchaikowski 28 Group (TIKI28)	14
4. The situation deteriorates	14
4.1 Situation in Piemurie (North Septimania).....	14
4.2 Situation in Provencia and Corsimania	15
5. The environment of the western Mediterranean basin	15
5.1 non-military maritime activities.....	15
5.2 Mercure's military activities in the western basin	17
6. The road to Intervention.....	17
7. International reactions.....	17
7.1. The UN.....	18
7.2 Mercure.....	18
7.3 Septimania	18
7.2 Icaria.....	18
7.4 Otsoe.....	19
7.5 European Union (UE)	19
ANNEX II.....	20
GEOGRAPHICAL TABLE.....	20

NATO UNCLASS RELEASABLE TO EXERCISE POLARIS 21

GLOSSARY and ACRONYM TABLE 22
ANNEX IV 23
SCENARIO KEY LEADER IDENTIFICATION 23

1. General overview of the geopolitical situation

The crisis between Mercure and Septimania takes place in the western Mediterranean, more than 2000 Nm from the national territory. France has strategic interests in Septimania and 400 French nationals live or work there from time to time, mainly in the oil industry, the food industry or services. Some are present there within major international organizations (UNODC, UNICEF, EUROPOL, MSF, ACTED, ICRC), as well as corresponding journalists from major national titles.

This region of the European continent continues to experience a situation of latent crisis since the partition of the ex-catharo-septimania empire at the end of the Second World War in 1945. For ten years Mercure, heir to this ex-empire, which stretched from the Pacific to the Baltic, adopted an aggressive foreign policy towards the countries born of this partition by playing on the nationalist feeling of the Catharist peoples present in the former satellite countries.

The situation in Septimania has become extremely worrying in terms of international law and the humanitarian situation because of the sudden invasion of the country by the military and paramilitary forces of Mercure on November 4, 2021. The very weak resistance of the army of Septimania ultimately resulted in the loss of two-thirds of the territory in 17 days of a strange war and the displacement of 400,000 people from Provenca to the western part of Septimania. The government had to leave (Sextius) Aix-en-Provence to take refuge in Montpellier, where it is calling for resistance and trying to organize a response with what remains of its fighting troops. On the 21st day of the invasion, the army of Mercure controls Piemuria and most of Provenca coastline from Nice to Port-Saint-Louis du Rhône.

The international community cannot accept this policy of "fait accompli" and the vote of a binding resolution authorizing the use of force to put an end to this invasion could be adopted shortly.

France, at the forefront for many months, has prepared crisis planning to be ready to take the lead of a peace enforcement force under UN mandate.

The President of the Republic ordered the armed forces to assemble an international coalition to stop the escalation and preserve the sovereignty of Septimania launching Operation POLARIS on 05 November.

The carrier strike group articulated around the aircraft carrier "Charles de Gaulle" and constituting the TF 473 got underway from her port homeport on 11 November 21, and is heading for the western Mediterranean to enter the JOA on November 17.

2. Geopolitical Context and main Regional Actors



2.1 Historical review

In the Middle Age, a Cathar-Septime Empire had stretched from Irkousk to Rennes and from Gdansk to Barcelona. This golden age followed by periods of fratricidal internal struggles and wars against the invasions of people from the north and the west. In the 18th century, the influence of the Otsoe philosophers was at the origin of a vast movement of protest social order which led to revolutions leading to recomposing and ultimately to the creation of new states. This movement will end in the middle of the 20th century with the settlement of the Second World War. Of the original empire, only Mercure remains, with alarge part of people expressing nostalgia for its past greatness.

2.2 MERCURE

Mercure is a huge country straddling North Asia and Europe that forms a federation of 16 autonomous regions with no direct access to the Mediterranean. The legislative power is represented by a parliament of 400 deputies elected by direct universal suffrage for 5 years. There are several political parties all represented in parliament. The executive branch headed by the head of government appointed by the president. The president elected for 6 years. Current president Virgo Medvetine has managed to stay in power for 20 years and has silenced his main opponents. He advocates a strong Mercure and exacerbates the nationalist feeling of the Catharist people.

Mercure today represents two-thirds of an ancient Catharist empire that stretched from the Pacific Ocean to the Atlantic in the west and bordered by the Black Sea in the south. Following a Marxist revolution in

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the 19th century, the empire lost the territories of its eastern and southern marches, which partly constitute Violeta and Brownia. The First World War at the beginning of the 20th century completed the fragmentation of this empire, which gave birth to a continental block comprising Otsøe to the north and Aquitania to the southwest. Septimania received Piemuria as a reward for its engagement alongside Akitania in the war against Mercure and Icaria.

World War II once again saw Mercure and its allies Brownia and Violeta clash against an alliance comprising Akitania, Septimania and Icari, which between the wars had joined the Akitania alliance. The settlement of the conflict completed the dispersal of the last possessions of the Catharist Empire, Mercure, by attaching the island of Corsimania to Septimania. Mercure also had to give up Mercmania, a region rich in natural resources and the historic heart of the Catharist people who obtained autonomous region status within Otsoe.

This situation lasted until the beginning of the sixties when the economic crisis in Mercure began to revive the ethnic and social tensions linked to the displacement of the population wanted by the single party towards the Far East for the exploitation of coal and mines of iron. In the early 2000s, the one-party political system collapsed, and after a decade of unrest, Mercure adopted a front political pluralism and began to reconquer its national pride under the yoke of Lieutenant-Colonel Medvetine from the secret services who came to supreme power thanks to the support of oligarchs and Catharist mafias.

Mercure's foreign policy is expansionist. Leader Mercure seeks to reaffirm his country as a major player on the world stage, after years of self-effacement from the US superpower. Moskulova (capital of Mercure) is today essential in the resolution of the crisis of Mercmania, which could lead to a civil war at any time. The President of Mercure does not hesitate to challenge the Western countries to which he blames the overthrow of the VIOLETA regime in 2011 and the support for OTSOE against the independence of MERCMANIA in 2015. Moskulova could intervene militarily to support the independence of this separatist territory. The ambition of President Virgo Medvetine is to restore the unity of the "Catharist world".

Official Name : Federal Republic of Mercure

Political regime : Parliamentary democracy

Head of State : Virgo Medvetine

Head of government : Iouri Blinov

Country area : 17 456 147 km²

Capital : Moskulova

Population : 195 657 324

Official language : Slavo catharist

Ethnic distribution : Catharist (75%), Septimus (10%), Tatar (6%), Mogol (9%)

Defence : Army (380 000), Air and space (165 000), Navy (145 000), composed by 40% of career (professional), 20% (enlisted), 40% (conscripts 2 years)

2.3 SEPTIMANIA

Septimania is a small country in Europe that shares its borders to the west with Akitania, to the east with Icaria and to the north with Otsoe and Mercure since the reunification of Piemuria in the early 20th century.

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At the origin of the Septimus kingdom in the 9th century, this country has always known how to preserve its culture and its independence. It was at the end of the First World War, the reigning royal family gave up the power. Septimania became a Republic with a parliament in which all political tendencies represented. The attachment of Corsimania and Piemuria were the first sources of tensions and disagreements within this small republic.

In 2013, the discovery of the first oil and gas deposits south of Toulon and west of Ajaccio awakened regional ambitions in view of the economic potential created by this discovery. The rather peaceful and tolerant Septimus people do not have a real professional army since conscription remains the rule. In Piemuria, a strong Catharist minority has developed economic and cultural links with Mercure for twenty years. The border area is in fact under the control of Catharist mafias who organize a lucrative traffic of all kinds between Mercure, Otsoe and Septimania.

The cohabitation between the different ethnic groups does not pose a problem in Provencia unlike Piemuria in which nationalist local political groups, some of which supported by Mercure, claim recognition of their cultural specificities. Two of these Catharist movements have armed militias, which take part in violent demonstrations exacerbating community tensions and threatening the Septimus population. In the villages of the border area with Mercure and Otsoe, the Migration Observatory deplores the displacement of the population of Septimus origin towards the south that is the consequence of the violence committed, the result of which is comparable to ethnic cleansing. The power in place is unable to act because the security forces are predominantly of Catharist origin.

In Corsimania, the first economic benefits of the new oil industry first benefited the part of the southern Corsimania (south Corsimania) thanks to the investments made by the government of Septimania in the Ajaccio region. On the contrary, the Corsimania of the north (Alta Corsimania) with a Catharist majority feels neglected and claims a better distribution of wealth and investments. Local politicians have been building cultural links with the Catharist communities of Sardinia and Piemuria for the past fifteen years to counterbalance the political and economic weight of the Septime community of Corsimania. To this political situation, a clan system is added between the various large families who run the island. It is frequent that the different territorial and family resolved by the means of the weapons. These results in a hardening of political positions within the parliament of this island republic attached to Septimania.

Official Name : Republic of Septimania

Political regime : Parliamentary democracy

Head of State : Andro Pizzela

Head of government : Eneko Autiero

Defence : Army (12 000), Air Force (3500), Navy (3000), composed by 20% of career (professional), 40% (under contract), 40% (conscripts)

Country area : 73 224 km²

Capital : Sextius

Population : 9 655 234

Official language : Septimanien

Ethnic distribution :

Provencia : Septimus(75%), Catharist (20%), divers(<5%)

Piemurie : Catharist (71%), Septimus (29%)

Alta Corsimania: Catharist (92%), Septimus (8%),
South Corsimania: Septimus (98%), Catharist (2%)

2.4 SARDINIA

The island is predominantly Catharist and includes a small Septimus minority on the western coast. Like all the islands of the Mediterranean it has undergone several invasions and influences that today make the Sardinian people. Attached in the 18th century to the Duchy of Piemuria for 150 years, Sardinia obtained a special regime of broad autonomy in return for its membership in Icaria. Sardinia because of its Catharist culture has preserved and developed trade with Piemuria. In the 1980s, Mercure undertook to rekindle cultural ties with Sardinia and invest in the development of a local mining and chemical industry. Mercure reaped the rewards of its investment in the early 2000s, when Sardinia granted Mercure the right to build a naval base in the port of Cagliari for an annual rent of 100,000 Rublika.

New works to extend the naval base, completed in 2013, accommodates three large vessels and two submarines. Part of Cagliari International Airport also hosts a few detachments of maritime patrol aircraft and fighter jets for four-month rotations.

Foreign policy: Sardinia wishes at the same time to remain in the republic of ICARIA and to develop new relations with Mercure and to take advantage of this alliance to assert its rights in the sharing of the EEZ and to benefit from access to the oil field "Provincia".

Official Name : République of Sardinia

Political regime : Parliamentary democracy

Head of State : Lelio Carpacio

Defence : Army (3000), Air Force (1200), Navy (2000), composed by 70% of career (professional), 30% (under contract)

Country area : 24 095km²

Capital : Cagliari

Population : 1 642 127

Official language : Sardin

Ethnic distribution : Catharist,(96%), Septimus (4%)

2.5 ICARIA

This country bathed in the east by the Adriatic Sea and in the west by the Mediterranean, shared its northern border with Mercure and Brownia. Trade relations are limited due to Icaria's membership in the trade and political alliance "Organization Commerciale Septime 97 (OCS 97)" dating from 1997. Although there is a Catharist minority in the north of the country, there is no strong nationalist feeling because of the recognition of the Catharists thanks to a political organization of the federalist type, which grants great autonomy to the different regions. However, the loss of Piemuria in settlement of the conflict of the First World War remains a painful memory for some nostalgic for the border area.

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With a federal parliamentary system, renewed every 7 years, the government of Icaria has broad support among the population despite an economic situation that has deteriorated for ten years under the effect of globalization. The discovery of the "Provencia" oil field west of Corsimania is seen as an opportunity that should be seized.

In general, the government tends to blame Akitania's egoism within OCS 97 as the source of the economic crisis looming in Icaria.

Icaria has a modern army based on a mixed organization between professional regiments and units made up of conscripts who serve for 2 years. The original European equipment is showing signs of aging and a modernization program has been underway for 4 years. Due to the economic situation, the renewal of the aircraft fleet called into question and Mercure has been approached to provide an offer for a latest generation multi-role fighter. Icaria could maintain a certain ambiguity between its economic alliance within OCS 97 and a possible new relationship with Mercure, which is seen as a new strategic partner to assert regional leadership. In the same time, committed to security in Europe, Icaria, which chaired the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) in 2018, wished to place particular emphasis on the Mediterranean dimension of this organization. It supports the efforts led by France and Germany ("Normandy format") in the context of the Mercmania crisis.

Sicilia is the island of the tip of the Icaria boot from which the Strait of Messina separated. With a statute of autonomy guaranteed by the constitution, Sicilia is a logistic key point for NATO, which has port as well as an Air Base.

Official Name : République icarienne

Political regime : Parliamentary democracy

Head of State : M. Francus Alfieri

Head of government : M. Giancarlo Morbidelli

Defence : Army (115 000), Air Force (42 120), Navy (37 000), composed by 46% of career (professional), 25% (enlisted), 31% (conscripts-2 years)

Country area : 310 226 km²

Capital : Romulus

Population : 60 244 639

Official language : icarien

Ethnic distribution : Septimus(75%), Catharist (20%), Celtic (<5%).

2.6 AKITANIA

Akitania forms the southwest corner of the European continent and has an Atlantic coastline as well as the Mediterranean. It shares a border to the north with Otsoe and to the east with Septimania. To the south, the Pyrenean chain separates it from Iberica. It is a democratic republic with a presidential regime headed by a president elected for 6 years.

The Akitanian people are 95% of Septime and the country is enjoying relative prosperity. He headed up a regional trade alliance founded in 1997 with Iberica and Icaria, the Septime 97 Trade Organization founded

NATO UNCLASS RELEASABLE TO EXERCISE POLARIS 21

in 1997 at the initiative of Akitania. This alliance aims to reduce customs duties between its members and to negotiate collectively the opening of its market at the global level. Close to the Western world thanks to its Atlantic coast, it abolished conscription in 2000 and has a very modest professional army whose main role is the defence of the territory.

Foreign policy: Akitania wishes to strengthen its regional leadership within the OCS 97 but the weakness of its military apparatus does not allow it to assert itself further. He is working on this plan in Icaria, whose army is far superior to him. The president of Akitania wants to develop his relations with the rest of Europe and the United States. Akitania has observer status within NATO with a view to membership within 2 years.

Official Name : République of Akitania

Political regime : parliamentary democracy

Head of State : jean-Pierre Sichel

Defence : Army (48 751), Air Force (6500), Navy (8 200), composed by 60% of career (professional), 40% (enlisted),

Country area : 153 082 km²

Capital : Burdigala

Population : 13 126 005

Official language : Akitania

Ethnic distribution : Septimus(75%), Catharist (20%),

2.7 IBERICA

Iberica is a federal-type parliamentary monarchy, which grants broad autonomy to eight. Mainly populated by Septime, with marked cultural peculiarities in each region.,. Iberica adopts a position of neutrality on all major international issues and its membership in SCO 97 is sufficient for it.

Official Name : Iberica

Political regime : parliamentary monarchy

Head of State : Alfredo Bautista

Head of government : Franco Murillo

Defence : Army (75 000), Air Force (21 000), Navy (22 000), composed by 30% of career (professional), 70% (conscripts)

Country area : 504.782 km²

Capital : Magerit

Population : 47 052 330.

Official language : Iberican with regionalism particularities

2.8 OTSOE

A recent country resulting from the reorganization of the Europe after the Second World War inherited from the western part of the former Catharist Empire inhabited by Celtic and Scandinavian peoples. The Catharists are concentrated in the south in the Mercmania enclave (ME). Otsoe shares its northeast border

NATO UNCLASS RELEASABLE TO EXERCISE POLARIS 21

with Mercure for nearly 600 km. A Catharist minority exists in the northeast quarter, which lives in harmony with the Septimus and Scandinavian communities. Otsoe is a republic with a parliamentary system. Many political parties exist, whose representatives elected on a proportional basis. The results after elections cannot permit to have a majority, which creates political instability and hamper the proper functioning of the state. Otsoe is home to an enclave (Mercmania) in which the birthplace of the Catharist people is located

Foreign policy: The government of Otsoe adopts a prudent neutrality concerning Mercure, which has a military power without comparison with the army of conscription of Otsoe. As a result, Otsoe loses interest in the enclave since there is no direct interference with the rest of the country. This explains why Mercmania attempt at independence in 2015 completely surprised the Otsoe government. Thanks to the international pressure, Mercure had to withdraw its troops and the OSCE sent a dozen observers. A UN mission is trying to maintain dialogue between the various official of Mercmania and the government without any progress. Otsoe seeks to develop its trade relations with northern Europe and to move closer to NATO. This last point is a potential source of contention with Mercure.

Official Name : République of Otsoe

Political regime : parliamentary democracy

Defence : Army (58 000), Air Force (6 500), Navy (5 000), composed by 20% of career (professional), 80% (conscripts)

Head of State : Dimitri Shengelia

Head of government :

Country area : 432 005 km²

Capital : Lutecia

Population : 610546 125

Official language : Otsoe gaulo

2.9 MERCMANIA

This territory is almost autonomous and the government of Otsoe does not really care because there is hardly any exchange with the rest of the country because of the Catharist community. The latter, completely infiltrated, by the mafias who take advantage of its geographical location outside the direct control of Mercure. The secret services of Mercure also use the enclave to settle a few miscellaneous cases outside of any jurisdiction. During the 2015 Mercania crisis, Otsoe sought diplomatic and military support from Akitania, but with no real success. It was ultimately from the UN and the threat of action by a few members of the Security Council that restrained the ardour of Mercure, which obtained a status quo.

It is now an autonomous enclave recognized only by Mercure since 2015. The Septime inhabitants driven out of almost the entire enclave and kept around the edges with Otsoe. As early as 2013, Catharist militias appeared, demanded autonomy, and refused to recognize Otsoe as an official language. The young Catharists refuse their incorporation into the army and join the self-defence forces set up by Mercure's military secret service. In 2014, the Otsoe government attempted to negotiate a rapprochement with the Catharist majority. The self-appointed parliament of Montluçon (capital of Mercmania) refuses any discussion and officially calls for its attachment to Mercure. In 2015, Mercure paramilitary troops sent by

plane to Mercmania and established barbed wire borders. Europe is sending observers who stationed in a sort of buffer zone near Saint-Yorre.

Under international pressure, Mercure returns half of its troops and maintains a contingent of 500 men. Mercmania is the cradle of the Catharist royalty of the 9th century and of the orthodox Catharist religion. The towns of **Moulins and Montluçon constitute its heart.**

Official Name : **Autonomous République of Mercmania**

Political regime : Parliamentary republic

Head of autonomous government : Akin Khustsishvili

Country area : 69 700 km²

Capital : Montluçon

Population : 241 000

Official language : Merlonic

Ethnic distribution : Catharist (94 %), Septimus (5 %),

3. Non-State and State-Sponsored Actors

3.1 The free Catharist Brotherhood (FCB)

In its original incarnation the FCB is an ethnic Catharist volunteer paramilitary unit established at the end of WWII in the north of Piemurie (Septimania) west of Mercure. The FCB is responsible of the preservation of the Catharist way of life and defend the interest of the community against the “Septime law”. The FCB are a terrorist group, which has traditionally operated in north Septimania. The FCB has established itself in the other countries of the western Mediterranean basin including Corsimania, Sardinia. A cell also exists in northern Icaria.

3.2 The Catharist Action Front (CAF)

The CAF are ultranationalist, pro-Mercure separatist organization operating in the Mercmania enclave (ME). As the ethnic Septimus Otsoe population in the ME has dwindled over the years, the ethnic Catharist population is most of the enclave. From an historical point of view, the ME is the original site of the cradle of the Catharist ethnicity and the first kings. The CAF has been increasingly active and vocal in demanding an end to government from Lutecia (capital of Otsoe), calling for a self-proclaimed state in a Mercurian federation. The organization, which assessed to have link with the Mercurian Military Secret Service (MMSS) is prepared to use force to achieve this in the coming years.

3.3 The sons of “a Muvra” (SM)

The SM is a relatively recent separatist movement born 2000 in the city of Corte in Alta Corsimania (Septimania). The organization which has both a military and political wing is determined that both South Corsimania and Alta Corsimania became independent from Septimania. The population of Alta Corsimania is sympathetic to the movement and its support base in Bastia is growing. The leader of the SM considers

that such support gives it the mandate to protect the Catharist citizen in Alta Corsimania against the Septimania law.

3.4 The Little Green Men (LGM)

The LGM appears for the first time in the Mercmania (ME) enclave during the 2015 summer when dozens of heavily armed strangers in unmarked uniforms landed by Antonov without a cockade on the wings at Monluçon airport. Images of unmarked special forces troops silently taking up positions at a number of key locations in the ME, shadowy militias (CAF) rapidly mobilizing in support of Mercure and a relentless information campaign have raised questions about Otsoe military readiness and efficiency about international military intelligence monitoring assets on this region. In the media, use of anonymous trolls to keep up a drumbeat of anti-Otsoe, rhetoric in the media (and to manipulate it) shows no sign of abating. The campaign stops when The LGM removed from the enclave under the international pressure. However, approximately 500 remained in place.

3.5 Tchaikowski 28 Group (TIKI28)

Tchaikowski 28 is a group of Hackers originally from Mercure. Specialized in attacks on government sites (OTSOE Ministry of Health in 2014; Septimania Ministry of the Interior in 2016; Icaria Ministry of Defense in 2018) or private symbol of big capital (Lehman & Brothers bank 2019; BP petroleum (2019)). The group attempts to break into databases to either corrupt them or steal clients' account settings for subsequent blackmail. They can either introduce malware or remove data from the best protected servers. This group would include several independent specialized branches to better hide themselves. In 2020, Europol was able to determine that this "Tiki 28" group is linked to the military secret services of Mercure and that it would also have intervened in the last elections in Iberica by manipulating information and via accounts of pseudo influencers on Facebook, Youtube, Instagram TikTok. Europol recognized that it was very difficult to obtain compelling evidence and to know the extent of the wrongdoing carried out. Operations in cyberspace from Mercure were identified during the past crises of 2015 and some warning signs were recently detected by specialized services.

4. The situation deteriorates

4.1 Situation in Piemurie (North Septimania)

Since 2015 following the crisis in Mercmania, Piemuria has been rocked by a series of violent protests against a law by the government of Septimania to ban the use of the Catharist language in schools. The FCB organization used this pretext to start undermining the population of Catharist origin. In 2017, the Catharist "voice" newspaper published several articles extolling the benefits of Mercure's "Marxist Catharist" society and highlighting the region's economic difficulties as the region Majority Septimus de Provencia captured all the wealth coming from the exploitation of the oil field "Provencia Oilfield". The same year paramilitary militias framed by the FCB did not hesitate to launch intimidating attacks against Septimus farming families with success despite the deployment of gendarmerie reinforcements. With each operation of the gendarmerie to arrest the activists of the FCB, the population demonstrates to demand the release of the militants. In 2019, President Medvetine during a meeting with President Pizzela denounced

the unfair treatment of the Catharist people of Piemuria by the security forces of Septimania. During the press conference, President Medvetine said he was monitoring developments and that if necessary he would not hesitate to intervene to protect the Catharists of Piemuria.

4.2 Situation in Provencia and Corsimania

The situation in these two provinces is directly linked to the exploration and exploitation of the "Provencia Oilfield". Since the discovery of the gas and oil field in 2013, Septimania has granted the concession of the majority of the blocks to international companies, including Total for France.

Total in July 2021 began an exploration campaign with a seismic vessel "the Sultness" south of parallel 41 ° 30N. This ship while in the EEZ claimed by Septimania was forced to abandon its job by a warship from Sardinia. The Sultness turned to Ajaccio pending further instructions from Total.

When Septimania filed the boundaries of its EEZ with the United Nations Secretariat, Icaria protested that it had not been consulted by Septimania. This unilateral approach is contrary to the convention of the law of the sea. Consequently Septimania must withdraw its proposal.

In Corsa Alta, the separatist group "Sons of" a Muvra (SM) "announced in a press conference on the heights of Bastia that it would start war operations against the security forces of Septimania if the patrols of the gendarmerie north of Bastia did not cease immediately. It is undoubtedly a reaction to the discovery of a large cache of weapons by the Bastia gendarmerie. On the night following the press conference, Brando and Luri's gendarmerie were machine-gunned with automatic weapons. The president of the regional assembly deplored the lack of dialogue on the discussions on the future establishment of a gas liquefaction plant in Ajaccio (south Corsimania) or in Galéria (Alta Corsimania) with Septimania. Ajaccio's choice seemed decided, and he understood the exasperation of his compatriots Catharists. The Prefect, for his part, denounced the dangerous slope taken by Sons of "a Muvra" and denounced the foreign interference of the activities of the FCB.

5. The environment of the western Mediterranean basin

5.1 non-military maritime activities

a) The fishing sector

The fishing fleet is divided into an artisanal fishing fleet practiced by the day on boats between 6 to 10 meters, which remain less than 6Nm from the coast, and trawlers that practice bottom fishing further offshore.

The various countries of the basin have adopted regulations which impose the application of quotas on certain species in order to preserve the resource. This results in an operating financial deficit more or less compensated by the States. Fishermen who practice artisanal fishing are required to practice other trades to ensure their economic survival or to engage in illegal fishing of certain species.

NATO UNCLASS RELEASABLE TO EXERCISE POLARIS 21

These economic difficulties may also encourage some fishermen to turn to illegal activities such as drug trafficking, human trafficking or arms smuggling.

In the western basin, there are three major fishing areas:

- The area in the Northwest of the Balearic Islands in 40°02N-2°05E
- The South-East zone of Sardinia in 38°38N-8°21E
- The western Sicilia area in 38°00N-11°02E

b) Drug routes

The drug routes concern cocaine from South America, which transits in containers, mixed with legal products and whose ports of arrival or bursting are Algeciras and Barcelona en Iberica bound for Durres in Violeta. The drugs shipped back to Europe from Violeta or back to Europe by land.

The other route from South America arrives in West Africa then goes up to North Africa and joins the more traditional Cannabis route between Afrikand and Iberica crossing the Alboran Sea. The transport of the Cannabis is generally done using RHIB boats of 10 to 20 meters equipped with powerful engines.

c) Migration routes

The western basin is also crossed by the migration routes between Afrikand and Europe. The smugglers adapt their networks according to the means of surveillance and control deployed by Frontex and the activity of the coast guards as well as the different laws of the countries of destination.

Thus, there is a route between the coasts of Afrikand towards Sicilia, which due to the hardening of the law in Icaria has been modified towards Sardinia. As Sardinia offers no prospect, the flow begins again from the west coasts towards the Balearic Islands and then continues to the coasts of Iberica.

d) Smuggling of weapons

The weapons come mainly from Violeta, which supplies most of the countries of Europe, or from Mercure for weapons of larger calibre, rocket launchers or mortars. Septimania reported that the SM "terrorist" movement received arms from Mercure by boat to Bastia or by small-scale fishing from Sardinia.

e) The disputed EEZ

Since 2013, the discovery of a huge oil field south of Toulon called "Provencia oilfield" has been the source of tensions between the riparian countries to gain access to this oil field. As exploration is not fully completed, each state has launched search campaigns in the hope of discovering a deposit in its EEZ. In 2015, Septimania proposed a route of its EEZ to Akitania and Iberica who accepted the proposed limits. But Septimania did not obtain the agreement of Sardinia which calls for an extension to the north to capture part of the deposit.

5.2 Mercure's military activities in the western basin

Mercure's military fleet is based in Novorossiysk in the Black Sea. It has been the subject of a continuous modernization program since 2015. Mercure's naval vessels deployed regularly throughout the Mediterranean and have had a point of support in Sardinia in the port of Cagliari since 2002. In October 2020, the Mercure military fleet conducted a large-scale joint exercise with the Sardinia Navy. On this occasion, for the first time, a mine-laying exercise took place near Porto Torres and Asinara. Admiral Kaminsky Marko, head of the Mercure naval base in Sardinia warmly thanked the government of Sardinia for its participation and praised the quality of the relationship established between the sailors of Mercure and Sardinia. The admiral praised the realism of the storyline and praised the quality of the equipment of Mercure, which had the most efficient mines in the world, and that next year Mercure would come with revolutionary new equipment. He added that Mercure's navy would always be alongside the Sardinian navy ready to help defend Sardinia's interests in the face of multiple provocations from Septimania.

In February 2021, the Mercure naval base in Cagliari permanently accommodated 2 frigates, a Kilo-type submarine and a support supply ship. At the same time, a detachment of a maritime patrol plane and four SU 27 fighters based at Cagliari airport carried out 3 sorties per week. All of these assets patrolled west to the southern Balearic Islands and east into the Tyrrhenian Sea.

6. The road to Intervention

France sees Mercure as a persistent threat to the security and stability of the western Mediterranean basin due to its obsession with reuniting the Catharist people and wanting to control Europe's sources of energy. France and the entire international community have demanded that the United Nations Security Council take strong resolutions to condemn Mercure's action and demand an immediate ceasefire in Septimania.

France fears that if nothing is done the risk of the partition of Septimania is real and that Mercure could be able to control the oil field of Provencia, which would constitute the end of the autonomy in energy of Europe of the South.

But what worries the international community is the warning issued by the WHO which points to a possible risk of a pandemic following a SARS epidemic located in the enclave of Mercmania without being able to precisely identify the focus. The WHO was warned by the NGO "Médecin Sans Frontière" which faced a sudden influx of patients in the city of Montluçon.

WHO is investigating to determine the type of virus and how dangerous it is. A few WHO experts are hinting that it could be a "fabricated" virus that looks like what Mercure's military labs were capable of producing in the 2000s.

Mercure has vigorously denied his accusations described as fanciful and delusional in an attempt to discredit Mercure's legitimate action to protect the Catharist people of Septimania.

7. International reactions

7.1. The UN

The international community(IC) has been watching the situation in the region with increasing alarm. The European nations at the UN Security Council raised their concerns over the escalation of events in The Piemurie province since the November 4. However, as neither Septimania nor Mercure had committed to major military action some members of the Security Council insisted that diplomatic tools were the way to resolve the problem, which was seen as a “local issue”. Notwithstanding the UNSC warned Mercure that sanctions would be impose if she continues her threatening behavior.

Following calls on the IC from Akitania and Icaria to help enforce a ceasefire, and despite limp anti-involvement arguments, during an emergency session of the council on 20 October 2021 UNSCR 2046 (2021) was adopted covering acts of insurgency and terrorism.

During a further meeting of the UN Security Council on 19 November 2021 UNSCR 2047 (2021) was adopted which relates specifically to the **discovery of a secret laboratory in the Mercmania Enclave** which constitute an immediate threat against the IC. This resolution authorized **France to strike the laboratory in order** to destroy the cargo of virus.

7.2 Mercure

President Medvetine declared that the **troops of Mercure had entered Piemuria only to stop the exactions committed by the security forces of Septimania against the Catharist population.** He said there had been very little fighting as the population greeted the soldiers with joy. He responded to the critics by saying that Mercure had the right and the duty to intervene as other European powers had already done to defend minorities and that **Mercure had only one goal: "to ensure respect for the rights of Catharist ”.**

7.3 Septimania

President Pizzela has launched a genuine appeal for help against an unjustified invasion, incomprehensible to the international community. He called for an urgent meeting of the Security Council as well as **a request for military assistance from NATO** and all countries that still believed in the defense of law against force. He said his country was ready to receive all international institutions so that the world could see that the people of Septimania respected the Catharists who lived in the country. He denounced the action of irresponsible militias and terrorist movements that manipulated public opinion to exacerbate groundless nationalist sentiments. **He called for resistance against the occupation troops of Mercure**

7.2 Icaria

Icaria ordered the deployment of 1 artillery regiment and 2 mechanized infantry regiments along the border with Septimania to protect its border and prevent Septimania from taking refuge in the country. President Alfieri would have had President Medvetine's assurance that Mercure's troops would not enter Icaria on condition that Icaria did not agree to support Septimania

7.3 Akitania

Akitania assured the government of Septimania that he was ready to support it and that he strongly condemned Mercure's unwarranted intrusion into Septimania. The prime minister ordered the army to

NATO UNCLASS RELEASABLE TO EXERCISE POLARIS 21

deploy to the border with Septimania and offered to open camps to house the population of Septimania who wanted to take refuge in the country.

7.4 Otsoe

The Otsoe government has denounced Mercure's "illegal" invasion of Septimania and called on the international community to act before the situation gets out of hand. President Otsoe said the situation had to be resolved politically and the use of force would not solve the problem. He also recalled that the health situation in Mercmania raised serious questions about the origin of the virus.

7.5 European Union (UE)

The head of European diplomacy, Mr. Joseph Borel, condemned the aggression of Mercure against a country, which wanted to get closer to Europe while preserving its cultural roots that make it so original.

It is true that the EU has not succeeded in establishing a sincere dialogue with Mercure, which should have made it possible to preserve the choice of Septimania or other countries to approach the EU without this being perceived as a loss of influence of Mercure. He proposed to President Medvetine to open negotiations on the condition that he immediately withdraw his troops from Septimania. Mr Borel has announced a meeting of the European Council to study military intervention by certain European countries if a UN Security Council resolution is passed.

He also reiterated that the EU was watching the health situation in Mercmania with the greatest attention.

ANNEX II

GEOGRAPHICAL TABLE

Country Name	Capital	Real world data
ICARIA	Romulus (Rome)	Italie without Vallée d'Aoste, Piemont and Ligurie region
SEPTIMANIA	Sextius (Aix en Provence)	Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur and Gard, Herault and Corsimania (attached)
AKITANIA	Burdigala (Bordeaux)	Bretagne , Pays de Loire, Nouvelle Aquitaine , Occitanie (without Gard, Herault)
OTSOE	Lutècia (Paris)	Normandie, Hauts de France, Ile de France, Grand-Est, Bourgogne-Franche-Comté, Centre-Val de Loire (without Allier, Puy de Dôme, Loire), Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes
MERCMANIA	Montluçon (real name)	Allier, Puy de Dôme, Loire
MERCURE	Moskulova (Moscou)	Switzerland, Germany, Poland, Slovakia, Czech Republic, Belarus, Russia
SARDINIA	Cagliari (real name)	Real country
IBERICA	Magerit (Madrid)	Spain and Portugal



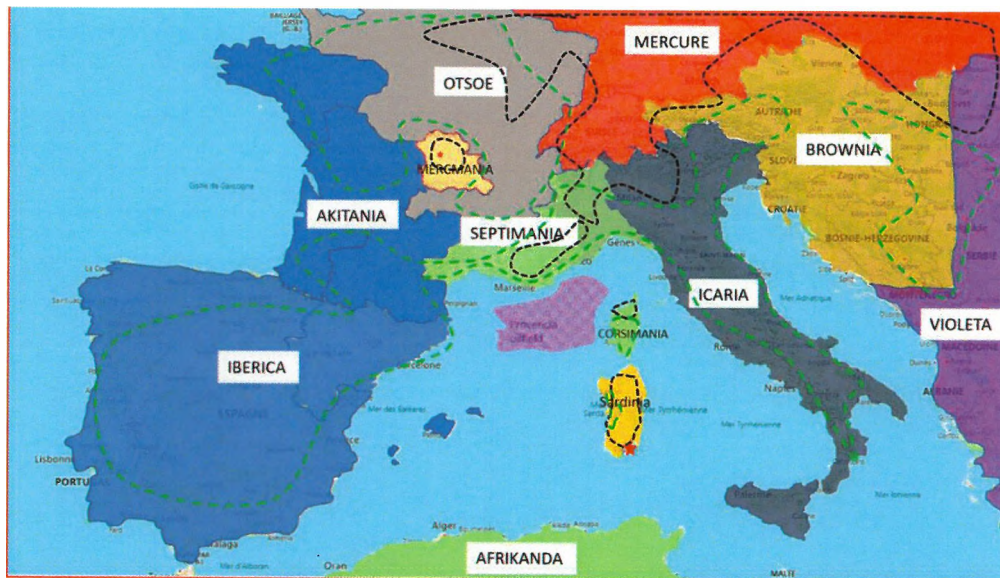
JOA delimitation

NATO UNCLASS RELEASABLE TO EXERCISE POLARIS 21

JOA is defined using the country boundaries of Septimania, respecting the 12 Nm territorial waters and the coastline of Akitania, Iberica up to the points:

- 37°37'55"N 0°41'25"W (Iberica)
- 37°37'55"N 12°36'38"E (Sicilia)

Following the coastline respecting the 12 Nm territorial waters through the strait of Messine and along the territorial waters of Icaria up to Septimania. Balears Islands and Sardinia are excluded of the JOA.



Ethic Distribution



Disputed EEZ

ANNEX III
GLOSSARY and ACRONYM TABLE

EEZ	Economic Exclusive Zone
ME	Mercmania Enclave
OCS 97	Organisation Commerciale Septime 97
UNSCR	United Nation Security Council Resolution
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNOCHA	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
WFP	World Food Program
WHO	World Health Organization

ANNEX IV

SCENARIO KEY LEADER IDENTIFICATION

Government of Septimania	
Andro Pizzela	Head of State,
Eneko Autiero	Prime Minister
Andoni Benefro	Ministry of Region
Imanol Cruli	Minister of Defence (MoD)
Pantao Aconio	Minister of Foreign Affairs (MoFA)
Iban Jeanseume	Minister of National Security (MoNS)
Adei Barsotti	Press Officer of the Chairman of the government
Aitor Escariot	Chairman of the Septimania National Oil and Gas Corporation (SNOGC)
Government of Otsoe	
Dimitri Shengelia	President, Head of State
Andro Khustsishvili	Minister of Defence (MoD)
Government of Icaria	
Francus Alfieri	Head of State
Giancarlo Morbidelli	Head of Government
Dino Panico	Ministry of Defense (MoD)
Alfonso Brogio	Spokesperson
Fermo Spocoli	Chief of general Staff of the Army
Alida Mansi	Chief of Staff of the Navy
Gian Furlan	Chief of Staff of Air Force
Government of Akitania	

NATO UNCLASS RELEASABLE TO EXERCISE POLARIS 21

Jean-Pierre Sichel	Head of State
Michel Cazes	Ministry of Defense (MoD)
Pierre Moueix	Spokesperson
General Alain Lurton	Chief of general Staff of the Army
Amiral François Lafon	Chief Naval Forces
Government of Iberica	
Alfredo Bautista	Head of State
Franco Murillo	Chief of government
Government of Sardinia	
Lelio Carpacio	Head of State
Antea Giotard	Ministry of the region
Eder Lamonoca	Governor of Cagliari
Government of Mercmania	
Akin Khustsishvili	President of the autonomist parliament
Maurola Jurdi	Mayor of Montluçon
	Chief of the
Government of Mercure	
Virgo Medvetine	Head of State,
Iouri Blinov	Prime Minister
Valentin Averianov	Ministry of federation
Victor Bondarev	Ministry of the Army
Marechal Alexandro Iemine	General in Chief of the Army
Admiral Maxime Jivenkov	Chief of the Navy

NATO UNCLASS RELEASABLE TO EXERCISE POLARIS 21

General Nikolai Denikine	Chief of Air Force
Grigori Voronov	Spokesperson
Mercure Forces in Sardinia - Central HQ in Cagliari	
Holub Pavlo	General Mercure commander in Cagliari
Kaminski Marko	Chief Mercure Naval Forces in Cagliari
Tudurí Ammari	Chief Mercure Air Forces in Cagliari
Spokesperson	Lieutenant Albano Bora
Key people of the Non State Actors	
Catharist Action front in Mercmania (CAF)	
Catharist military chief	Andueza Bioti (Chief of the Catharist Militia)
Catharist political chief	Beleche Adei (Chief of the political branch)
Spokesman	Barajaun Demiku – at Turin
Sons of “A Muvra” (SM)	
Military Chief (SM)	Ange Bastoni (chief of military branch SM at Bastia)
Political Chief (SM)	Artea Eder (at Corte)
Military Deputy	Elaia Orsoni
Spokesperson	Pietro Bira
The Free Catharist Brotherhood (FCB) in Septimania	
Political Chief	Ciaran Danel (at Turin)
Military Chief	Elicegui Eneko
Logistic Branch	Garunaga Mickael
Propaganda chief	Camille
Political Leader	Oloriz Gamiz (at Sisteron)

NATO UNCLASS RELEASABLE TO EXERCISE POLARIS 21

Military Chief	Colonel Segon Hiero (at Sisteron)
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