



SEI BULLETIN - AUGUST 24, 2016

## News: High School Students Get Crash Course in Cyber-Kinetic Tactical Operations

### Kids Take On Lifelike Hostage Rescue Mission on DoD-Grade Gamified Training Platform

Forward Operating Base Kyle buzzed with activity. Under a canopy of camouflage netting, Combat Mission Team 227 from the U.S. National Cyber Mission Force worked to coordinate the efforts of Task Force 44, a Navy SEAL unit deployed to the small island of Paraiso in the Indian Ocean. Loudspeakers squawked with the urgent chatter of the task force. Large monitors displayed real-time views from SEAL body cams and the surveillance drone hovering above the island, which recently had fallen into the hands of a well-funded, well-coordinated band of pirates. Task Force 44 had been deployed to the island to rescue a prominent U.S. journalist taken hostage by the pirates.

If some members of Team 227 sometimes whooped with youthful abandon, they could be forgiven. They were, after all, local high school students from the Pittsburgh region, and they were having a great time. The 75 students had gathered at the SEI CERT Division's Distributed Learning Center for a three-day program on cyber techniques used in mission support operations. The program culminated in the rescue mission, code named "Aluminum Kangaroo," which the students executed in a sophisticated, gamified training environment created by the SEI to support DoD training initiatives.

[Read more about this innovative SEI STEM event.](#)

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The SEI Bulletin is a biweekly newsletter designed to keep you up to date on SEI news, events, research, and other matters of interest to the SEI community. We hope you find the SEI Bulletin useful and informative.

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