



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
UNITED STATES ARMY EUROPE AND SEVENTH ARMY
ROEMER STRASSE 168 (CAMPBELL BARRACKS), GEB. 13
69126 HEIDELBERG, GERMANY

Letter of Implementation

SUBJECT: United States Army Europe and Seventh Army and Bulgaria Land Forces Participation in and Support of the Joint Task Force-East (JTF-E) Fiscal Year (FY) 2008 Rotation

1. The purpose of this Letter of Implementation (LOI) is to provide a statement of responsibilities between the United States Army Europe and Seventh Army (USAREUR/7A), Heidelberg, Germany, represented by the Deputy Chief of Staff G8, Agreements Division and the Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Bulgaria, represented by the Chief of Department L7 "Training of the forces" in Land Forces HQ.

2. Applicability:

a. This LOI is applicable to support of U.S. and Bulgarian military personnel participating in the JTF-E FY 2008 training Rotation to be conducted on or about (o/a) 18 Aug 08 thru 17 Oct 08 at Novo Selo Training Area (NSTA), Bulgaria.

b. Any issue not addressed within this LOI will be governed by the *Agreement between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Bulgaria on Defense Cooperation (DCA)*, those *Implementing Arrangements (IA) to the DCA* that are in force, the *Agreement between the Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty Regarding the Status of their Forces (NATO SOFA)*, any supplements and amendments thereto, and any other applicable international agreements between the two governments that may come into force during the training period.

c. The U.S. unit scheduled to participate is a composite battalion consisting of personnel from 5-7 ADA, 2-222 FA, 1-145 FA and 212 CSH. Total number of rotational unit personnel will be approximately 800.

d. The Bulgarian unit scheduled to participate is projected to be an infantry company, Bg HQ elements (5) and Bn HQs (5). Total number of rotational unit personnel will be approximately 300.

3. Definitions:

a. Host Nation (HN) – Republic of Bulgaria

b. Sending Nation (SN) – United States of America

c. Visiting Force (VF) – The members or units of US Forces deployed to the territory of Bulgaria for the purpose of the JTF-E FY 2008 Rotation. The term includes the personnel, aircraft, vehicles, stores, equipment, ammunition, missiles and provisions as well as air, sea, and surface movement resources, together with their supporting services, required to deploy the forces mentioned above.

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d. Host Nation Support (HNS) – The civil and military assistance rendered to US forces which are located in or in transit through the HN’s territory, airspace or territorial waters in connection with the JTF-E FY2008 Rotation.

4. The purpose and scope of the training event taking place o/a 18 Aug - 17 Oct 2008 at Novo Selo Training Area (NSTA), Republic of Bulgaria is to conduct bilateral training (squad through platoon) that is focused on requirements for Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF)/Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF).

5. USAREUR/7A and the Bulgarian Land Forces intend that those eligible logistical requirements that are identified in this LOI be executed on an equal-value exchange (EVE) basis in accordance with the “Acquisition and Cross Servicing Agreement (US-BU-01) between the Department of Defense of the United States of America and the Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Bulgaria,” dated 21 Feb 01. A failure of either party to fulfill their obligation for reciprocal support as stated on the AE Form 1-3A and in the ACSA negates the EVE and the support which has been provided becomes reimbursable as a “cash transaction” subject to availability of funds.

6. Responsibilities for training, logistical, administrative and bilateral support during the JTF-E exercise FY2008 are contained in Annexes to this document.

7. Points of Contact concerning this LOI are:

a. USAREUR G3 Plans:

- (1) LTC Morgan, +49-6221-57-6621, e-mail: daniel.morgan@eur.army.mil
- (2) MAJ Jankowski, +49-6221-57-3010, e-mail: edwin.jankowski@eur.army.mil
- (3) MAJ Byrd, +49-6221-57-6721, e-mail: elizabeth.byrd@eura.army.mil

b. USAREUR G8:

- (1) MAJ Ketz, +49-6221-57-8211, e-mail: brian.ketz@eur.army.mil
- (2) Mr. Strzelczyk, +49-6221-57-9084, e-mail: grant.strzelczyk@eur.army.mil

c. BU Land Forces:

- (1) Chief of BU Coordination Team: Col. Biser Kalinov, +359 2 9223520, lfhq_BPCHIEF@md.government.bg
- (2) Finance: Col. Nikolay Nikolov, +359 2 9223460, NIKEMAN@abv.bg
- (3) Logistics: Maj. Simeon Simeonov, +359 2 9223417, simeon_simeonov@mail.bg

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(4) Legal: LTC Vencislav Vassilev, +359 2 9220313, v.vassilev@mod.bg

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL,
UNITED STATES ARMY, EUROPE AND
SEVENTH ARMY



MICHAEL P. AEILLO
CHIEF, AGREEMENTS DIVISION

On: 20 AUGUST 2008

Place: Heidelberg, GE

FOR THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE OF
THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA



COLONEL BISER KALINOV
CHIEF OF DEPARTMENT L7 "TRAINING
OF THE FORCES" IN LAND FORCES HQ

On: 04. 08 2008

Place: Sofia

**ANNEX A – BILATERAL TRAINING PLAN TO BU LOI FOR JTF-E, FY 2008
ROTATION**

1. The purpose of this Annex is to detail the Bilateral Training Plan for the JTF-E FY 2008 Rotation.

2. The Visiting Forces (VF) and the Host Nation (HN) agree as follows:

A. Training. The Parties agree as follows:

1. Units that will be involved in training during the Exercise:

(a) United States: 5-7 ADA Battalion

- 2 Firing Batteries (A & C) organized as motorized infantry
- 1 Headquarters Battery
- 2-222 FA Btry & 1-145 FA Btry (UTNG) (for 15 days each)

organized as motorized infantry

(b) Bulgaria: 3-10 Mechanized Infantry Battalion

- 1 Company consisting of 3 platoons (3 squads each)
- Battalion HQ Element
- Brigade HQ Element

2. Timeline:

(a) 9-13 August 2008 – Main Body of US training Battalion (5-7 ADA) arrives.

(b) 18-28 August 2008 – Combat LifeSaver and HMMWV driver's training

(c) 19 August 2008 No Later Than (NLT) 1200 – HQ elements from both US and BU training battalions present at Charalitsa Simulation Center for SIMMEX

(d) NLT 30 August 2008 – BU training Company (3 Co 10th BN) arrives.

(e) 1 September 2008- Opening ceremony

(f) 1 September 2008 - Begin training

(g) Date in September to be determined – DV/Media Day – 15 October

(h) 17 October 2008 - Closing ceremony

(i) 20 October 2007 - Complete training

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3. Upon discovery of known conflicts in training, each party agrees to mutually discuss and resolve these issues at least 30 days prior to the start of the event.

4. HN will be responsible for providing public notice of agreed training and maneuver activities. In most instances and unless otherwise mutually agreed, such public notice shall be made at least two weeks in advance of the beginning of the authorized training activity.

5. The VF shall only conduct training and maneuver activities in accordance with the training event plan agreed upon between the VF and HN.

6. United States forces shall notify local military officials of alert exercises as early as is practical before the beginning of the alert exercises taking into consideration the level of alert being exercised. The local Bulgarian military officials shall take every reasonable measure to facilitate road movements with local authorities.

7. The VF maintains the ability to conduct training to its standard through the use of live, virtual, and constructive simulations to include DIS-E and MILES, with respect for Bulgarian law. All forces present in the firing range shall obey the safety restrictions.

8. The HN unit participating in the Exercise will be authorized use of VF DIS-E and MILES equipment.

9. The use of smoke, pyrotechnics, blank ammunition etc can be included in all training plans, subject to the public and non public land restrictions.

10. The Parties shall each identify a representative to act as a training event point of contact within the Joint Committee on behalf of their respective Joint Committee co-chair.

11. VF and HN forces are authorized to conduct weapons familiarization training on the other Party's weapon systems at the discretion of unit commanders and in accordance with each Party's rules and regulations regarding weapons use. Weapons familiarization training will be conducted only when representatives from both Parties are present to monitor the training.

12. Forces are authorized to train on weekends for exercise purposes.

13. Nothing in this Annex shall limit the ability of the VF to request and the HN to consider approval of training events, or otherwise undertake cooperative efforts to facilitate training, outside of the time periods described above, as may be mutually agreed.

B. Safety. All parties participating in this exercise will maintain safety as a core component of every activity to prevent injury to personnel, damage to equipment, and/or

**ANNEX A – BILATERAL TRAINING PLAN TO BU LOI FOR JTF-E, FY 2008
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negative impact on the environment. Safety and Risk Management will be formally addressed in planning, training, and execution of all aspects of the Exercise. This applies to all individuals participating in the Exercise. The following guidelines apply to all events:

1. The HN agrees to accept the VF range firing rules and regulations for all live fire, to the extent such rules and regulations do not conflict with the HN laws and regulations. In the event of a conflict between VF and HN safety procedures, the more restrictive procedure will apply.

2. Risk management will be incorporated into all operations. Risk assessments will be conducted to identify risks to personnel and equipment, implement measures to reduce identified risks, and to disseminate risk mitigation measures.

3. All activities and operations will be conducted as follows:

(a) Personnel will be qualified for the operations they perform;

(b) Risk assessments will be completed before an operation takes place IAW FM 11-5 and AE PAM 385-15-6.

(c) Risk acceptance level will be IAW AE Pam 385-15-6.

(d) Any risk mitigation measures that cannot be implemented will be referred back to the approval authority for review.

(e) All involved personnel will be briefed on the applicable safety requirements, risk assessment, and risk mitigation measures in place.

4. The JTF-E Commander will designate a VF range safety officer (RSO) to be responsible for VF range operations and safety. The VF range safety officer must coordinate with the JTF-E Safety Office, who will coordinate with the Range Commander for live firing exercise planning and execution and when dealing with local authorities to ensure range is clear of local nationals and livestock.

5. The HN RSO will be located at each training site to ensure VF and HN range and training regulations are understood and observed.

6. The VF will provide a RSO on each live-fire range used by VF. The RSO will have overall responsibility for exercise participants and ensure range operations are conducted in accordance with all applicable safety regulations. The RSO is authorized to suspend range operations if he or she becomes aware of an act the RSO determines to be unsafe. The RSO will order resumption of range operations upon determining that all safety concerns have been resolved.

**ANNEX A – BILATERAL TRAINING PLAN TO BU LOI FOR JTF-E, FY 2008
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7. The HN is responsible for range security and off-limits markings to include placing and manning barriers and is authorized to suspend range operations if the safety rules and measures are not executed.

8. The VF is authorized to establish all ammunition security control measures required by VF and HN law and regulations. In the event of a conflict between VF and HN ammunition procedures, the more restrictive procedure will apply.

9. The JTF-E Safety Office will coordinate all safety issues on the military installations with the Range Commander.

10. Daily inspections will be conducted of the living, working, and support areas. These inspections will be conducted by the VF representative and the HN (Bulgarian Platoon Leader) together. Deficiencies which are life threatening will be corrected on the spot or the activity will be shut down until corrective measures are put in place. All deficiencies will be briefed at the daily staff updates until corrections are made or hazards abated.

11. JTF-E Safety Office provides safety oversight for all VF activities and operations on the ground. All accidents, incidents, or other safety issues and concerning will be coordinated through this office.

3. Any changes to this Annex must be coordinated and agreed to in writing by the Parties.

4. The points of contact for this Annex are:

U.S. REPRESENTATIVE	BU REPRESENTATIVE
NAME: LTC Philbin, Michael	NAME: Parvanov, Anatoliy
UNIT/AGENCY: Joint Multinational Training Center	UNIT/AGENCY:
PHONE#: +49-964-1838793	PHONE#: + 359 88 677 147
FAX#: +	FAX#: +
EMAIL: Michael.philbin@us.army.mil	EMAIL: anatoliy.parvanov@abv.bg

ANNEX B – BILATERAL MANNING DOCUMENT TO BU LOI FOR JTF-E, FY 2008 ROTATION

1. The purpose of this Annex is to identify agreed upon procedures, responsibilities and support requirements for the Bilateral Manning Document for the JTF-E FY 2008 Rotation.

2. The Sending Nation (SN) and the Host Nation (HN) agree to the following matrix regarding the HN personnel that SN provides logistics support for:

Matrix for Bulgarian Participation in FY08 Rotation

Function	Beg Date	Dep Date	Personnel by Rank
Coordination cell			
Chief Coordinator+ team	16-Aug	20-Oct	5 Officers
	16-Aug	20-Oct	2 Soldiers (drivers)
JTF-E HQ NSTA			
J1	22-Aug	20-Oct	1 officer
J2	22-Aug	20-Oct	1 officer
J3	22-Aug	20-Oct	1 officer
J4	22-Aug	20-Oct	1 officer
J6	22-Aug	20-Oct	1 officer
BN HQ NSTA			
S1	22-Aug	20-Oct	1 officer
S2	22-Aug	20-Oct	1 officer
S3	22-Aug	20-Oct	1 officer
S4	22-Aug	20-Oct	1 officer
S6	22-Aug	20-Oct	1 officer
BU Company	22-Aug	20-Oct	5 officers
CPIC	16-Aug	20-Oct	2 Officers
	16-Aug	20-Oct	2 Soldiers
	29-Aug	20-Oct	5 Officers
	29-Aug	20-Oct	5 NCOs
	29-Aug	20-Oct	75 Soldiers
MP Platoon	9-Aug	25-Oct	3 officers
	15-Jul	9-Aug	2 NCOs
	9-Aug	25-Oct	24 NCOs
Ambulance Crew		25-Oct	3 Civilians
Drivers		20-Oct	2 NCOs
		20-Oct	3 Soldiers
Course participants			

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MIL to MIL Medical trng	11-Aug	15-Aug	15 NCOs
Drivers training	25-Aug	28-Aug	20 Soldiers
Combat lifesaver training	18-Aug	22-Aug	20 Soldiers
HUMINT Team	21-Sep	27-Sep	3 officers 4 NCOs 4 Soldiers
SIGIN	21-Sep	27-Sep	1 officer 8 NCOs
OPS Intelligence	21-Sep	3-Oct	3 officers
PA Media Training	24-Aug	29-Aug	10 officers

3. Any changes to this Annex must be coordinated and agreed to in writing by the Parties.

4. The points of contact for this Annex are:

U.S. REPRESENTATIVE	BU REPRESENTATIVE
NAME: Col Peri ANEST	NAME: MAJ KRASIMIR DALEV
UNIT/AGENCY: USA	UNIT/AGENCY: LAND FORCES HQ
PHONE#: +	PHONE#: +359 2 92 23560
FAX#:+	FAX#:+
EMAIL:peri.anest@eur.army.mil	EMAIL: lfhqupiv@md.government.bg

ANNEX C (BILATERAL SUPPORT) TO BU LOI FOR JTF-E, FY 2008 ROTATION

1. The VF will reimburse the HN with the VF/HN ACSA as Equal Value Exchange (EVE) for the services/supplies requested and received as identified in the below table.

2. The table below sets forth the rates in U.S. Dollars for various services associated with the use of the NSTA. The costs listed below must be verified by a representative from the VF and the HN and these verified invoices sent to the person responsible as listed in Enclosure, paragraph 3.c.(2). for enclosure with the EVE, Standardization Agreement (STANAG).

3. HN will provide (see table below):

Type of Service	Unit of Measure	Cost
Provide buses at NSTA to transport US members	\$ 200 Per day/Per Bus 1 Bus 15 Jul-25 Oct (103 days); 1 Bus 9 Aug - 25 Oct (78 days)	\$36,200.00
Provide distribution trucks to distribute diesel	\$140 Per Day (59 Days)	\$8,260.00
Provide rail security	\$1290 per echelons (4 echelons)	\$5,160.00
Provide escort services for vehicle convoy operations (Equipment/ Personnel, DV, Culture Day, and HA	\$131.16 Per convoy (70 Convoy's)	\$12,250.00
Provide perimeter security, base access security and interior security 24/7.	\$622.80 Per day (78 Days)	\$48,580.74
Training Area/Range Security at NSTA (24 hours – Wherever U.S. has equipment emplaced within the Training Area)	\$20.29 Per day/Per Person (10 Pax, 10 days)	\$2029.00
Lodging and Class I at BG Simulation Center	\$20.00 per day for Lodging \$11.50 for Class I per day 15 Pax/ 15 Days 30 pax/30 Days	\$9,922.50 POCs follow: LTC Orlin Nikolov +359 2 9222713 COL Barzev COL Kalinov
Medical Hazard Waste Removal	\$3.63 Per Kilo (100 Kg)	\$363.00
300 RPG rounds of ammunition	\$137 Per Round	\$41,100.00
Utilities at NTSA, etc., i.e. water, electricity, water boiler fuel	\$1.02 Per CM \$.15 per KW	\$22,675.50 (3,125 cubic meter)

ANNEX C (BILATERAL SUPPORT) TO BU LOI FOR JTF-E, FY 2008 ROTATION

	\$199.80 per day for Water boiler fuel	(50,000 KW) (Water boiler fuel (60 days))
Medical Support	\$141.51 per day (82 days)	\$11603.82
Fire Support for Range Operations	\$260.87 Per day	\$2,608.70
Other (NCOPT, Culture Days, DV Day) includes meals, transportation, etc.)	Per event	

Actual Costs for Services Total in U.S.D. \$197,684.46. Receiving country agrees to pay up to \$10,000 in the event of loss or damages (other than fair wear and tear) to equipment leased from the United States. Changes to this Appendix will be coordinated and agreed to by both parties.

4. The HN will reimburse the VF with the VF/HN ACSA as Equal Value Exchange (EVE) for the services/supplies requested and received as identified in the below table.

5. The table below sets forth the rates in U.S. Dollars for various services associated with the use of Nova Selo Training Area (NSTA). The costs listed below must be verified by a representative from the VF and the HN, and these verified invoices sent to the person responsible as listed in Enclosure, paragraph 3.c.(2). for enclosure with the EVE, Standardization Agreement (STANAG).

6. VF will provide (see table below):

Type of Service	Unit of Measure	Cost
Life Support Package -Subsistence -Infrastructure support -MWR support	\$20.29 Per person/per day (see attachment- Personnel Roll-up)	\$169,489.43
MRE (as required)	\$7.13 Per meal	N/A
MOGAS Fuel for forces supporting the training	\$1.53 Per liter (12,000 liters)	\$18,360.00
Diesel Fuel for forces supporting the training	\$.93 Per liter (18,000 liters)	\$16,740.00
The HN unit participating in the Exercise will be authorized use of VF Individual MILES equipment.	\$3.11 per day/ per soldier (75 Soldier/18 days)	\$4198.50
The HN unit participating in the Exercise will be authorized use of VF DIS-E equipment.	\$14.64 per day/ per soldier	N/A

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The HN unit participating in the Exercise will be authorized use of VF Vehicle MILES equipment.	\$5.00 per day/ per Vehicle (9 Vehicle/3 days)	\$135.00
Other (NCOPD, Culture Days, DV Day) includes meals, transportation, etc.)	Per Event	\$5261.53

Actual Costs for Services Total in USD \$197,684.46. Changes to this Annex will be coordinated and agreed to by both parties in writing.

ENCLOSURE 1 (BILATERAL SUPPORT) TO ANNEX C TO BU LOI FOR JTF-E, FY 2008 ROTATION

1. This enclosure identifies agreed upon finance procedures for the 2008 Exercise.
2. Reference: Acquisition and Cross-Servicing Agreement between the Department of Defense of the United States of America and the Ministry of Defense (US-BU-01), dated 21 February 2001 (ACSA).
3. The Parties agree as follows:

a. Pricing, invoicing and payment for all reimbursable logistic support, training area costs and services shall be in accordance with the terms and conditions of the above mentioned references.

b. Each Annex details the requirements that the MOD will provide at no cost to the VU and the requirements that are subject to reimbursement IAW ACSA. After conclusion of the JTSA, additional requirements may arise that are subject to reimbursement IAW ACSA, even though they are not reflected in Appendix 1 (ACSA Order) to this Annex. Such requirements will not be requested, except through coordination and approval by authorized personnel. The parties have agreed that to the extent practicable, all ACSA transactions will be settled by equal value exchange (EVE).

c. Payment to the MOD for services and support provided via ACSA will be processed as follows:

(1) Invoices will be presented to the VU detailing the services and support provided within 30 days of completion of the Exercise.

(2) Those invoices will be forwarded to the following:

Headquarters, United States Army, Europe, and Seventh Army
Campbell Barracks, Bldg. # 13, DCS G8
ATTN: Agreements Division (Ms Sargeant)
Roemerstrasse 168
69126 Heidelberg, Germany

(3) All invoices from the MOD will be subject to review by Army Audit Agency for up to two years after completion of the Exercise.

(4) Points of contact for financial matters are:

A. Bulgarian POC:

Col Nikolay Nikolov
Land forces Headquarters, Financial Department
Sofia,
34, Totleben Blvd., UPC 16860

ENCLOSURE 1 (BILATERAL SUPPORT) TO ANNEX C TO BU LOI FOR JTF-E, FY
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B. USAREUR/7A POC:

Headquarters, United States Army, Europe, and Seventh Army
Campbell Barracks, Bldg. # 13, DCS, G8
Attn: ACSA Program Manager
Roemerstrasse 168
69126 Heidelberg

4. Changes to this Annex will be coordinated and agreed to in writing by both Parties.

NAME: Donna Sargeant	NAME: Col Nikolay Nikolov
UNIT/AGENCY: USAREUR G8-IAD	UNIT/AGENCY: Land forces Headquarters, Financial Department
PHONE#: +49 6221-57-6375	PHONE#: +359 2 92 23460
FAX#: +49 6221-57-4002	FAX#:
EMAIL: donna.sargeant@eur.army.mil	EMAIL: NIKEMAN@abv.bg
U.S. REPRESENTATIVE	BU REPRESENTATIVE

ANNEX D – (PUBLIC AFFAIRS) TO BU LOI FOR JTF-E, FY 2008 ROTATION

1. This Annex identifies agreed upon public affairs requirements, responsibilities and procedures for JTF-E.

2. The Parties agree as follows:

a. The structure of the Coalition Press Information Center (CPIC) will be as follows:

<u>VF Public Affairs Team</u>	<u>HN Public Affairs Team</u>
Exercise PAO Chief- O4	Deputy Chief – MAJ (MK)
PA NCOIC- E7	Media Team – Officer/NCO (MK)
PA NCO-E6	Media Team – NCO (MK)
PA Specialist-E4	Translator-Civ or NCO
Translator/Media analyst	Novo Selo Public Affairs Liaison (as needed)

b. The CPIC can release general training mission information to media representatives provided the CPIC refrains from speculation and does not discuss classified information. Except for serious incidents, the JTF-E US and Bulgarian (BU) Commander or designated representative has release authority for all press releases.

c. For serious incidents involving personnel participating in the training mission, press release authority is as follows:

(1) If only an individual(s) from the Visiting Forces (VF) is involved, then the US JTF-E Commander is the release authority.

(2) If personnel from both the Host Nation (HN) and VF are involved, then the release authority will be the HN, in coordination with the JTF-E Commander and the US Embassy in Bulgaria.

(3) In the above cases the initial news release will be distributed to local, national and international media within two (2) hours of the incident. Follow-up releases will be distributed as information becomes available.

d. The timeline for Public Affairs support to the exercise will follow specific events on the training schedule.

e. The US and BU JTF-E Commander, in coordination with the BU base Commanders for Novo Selo Training Area (TA) will have the authority to approve a streamlined credentialing and base access process for media visiting the bases. The BU base Commander will have approval authority for last minute substitutions for local and foreign media visitors requiring base access. The Bulgaria MOD will be informed of all media visits for oversight. This authority will extend for the entire length of the JTF-E

ANNEX D – (PUBLIC AFFAIRS) TO BU LOI FOR JTF-E, FY 2008 ROTATION

Exercise. Both the JTF-E US and BU Land Forces Commanders on site will have the authority to allow last minute access as needed to media representatives under escort.

f. The HN will provide a Public Affairs Team (PAT), as outlined in the structure (see 2a above). The Deputy PAO shall be proficient in the English language and have knowledge of public affairs matters. The HN PAT will perform the following:

- (1) Act as a liaison with the MOD for Public Affairs matters during the training mission.
- (2) Provide media analysis and guidance to the VF Public Affairs Officer.
- (3) Assist in the coordination and implementation of the CPIC plan with local and international civilian media.
- (4) Translate and disseminate VF news releases and media advisories to MOD for national release before information has been distributed to local media agencies.
- (5) Serve as an interpreter/translator for the CPIC.
- (6) Review translations of VF press kit fact sheets.
- (7) Publish on the HN website exercise news releases and advisories as authorized by the MOD in coordination with VF PAO.
- (8) Coordinate for MOD PAT that will be the lead organization for media facilitation at Novo Selo TA. The MOD PAT will coordinate media operations in conjunction with US PAT and assist US Forces PAT in gathering photos and video products.
- (9) Ensure that HN PAO will provide translated information for the training mission press kit. (Bulgarian Leader Bios, info sheets on major equipment and weapons systems).
- (10) Operate and maintain a JTF-E website for release of public information.
- (11) MOD will post all media accreditation requirements on the JTF-E website. The requirements will include a letter of accreditation from the news media management and ground rules for media during coverage of JTF-E training missions.

g. The VF PAT will:

- (1) Coordinate release of information and coverage of units and act as overall training mission PAO.

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(2) Coordinate proposed public affairs guidance with MOD PA representatives.

(3) Coordinate public announcement of the training mission with Bulgarian Land Forces and HN PA prior to start of the training.

(4) Coordinate international coverage with HN PA.

(5) Ensure that US PAO will provide translated information for the training mission press kit. (American Leader Bios, info sheets on major equipment and weapons systems)

h. Media on military aircraft:

(1) The US JTF-E commander and BU JTF-E commander will have the authority to approve media representatives to board and travel on military aircraft associated with JTF-E training missions. Media will be escorted by CPIC personnel at all times.

i. Media Authorization for Taking Photos or Video on Novo Selo TA.

(1) While on all bases involved in JTF-E operations, media will be escorted by PA representatives at all times. In accordance with the established media ground rules and the base commanders' directives, the media will be granted permission to take pictures or videos.

3. Any changes to this Annex must be coordinated and agreed to in writing by the Parties.

4. The points of contact for this Annex are:

NAME: MAJ Jennifer Johnson	NAME: LTC NEVROKOPLIEV
UNIT/AGENCY: JTF-E PAO	UNIT/AGENCY: Land Forces Staff
PHONE#: +49 622 157 8608	PHONE#: +359 2 92 23015
FAX#:	FAX#:
EMAIL: jennifer.r.johnson@EUR.ARMY.MIL	EMAIL:
U.S. REPRESENTATIVE	BU REPRESENTATIVE

ANNEX E – JTF-E AVIATION STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES FOR BULGARIA, FY 2008 ROTATION

1. This Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) identifies the agreed upon measures between the Visiting Force “VF” (from the US Army Europe, US Air Forces Europe, US Special Operations Command Europe, US Air Mobility Command or attached elements) and the Host Nation “HN” (Bulgaria) regarding procedures related to aviation and airspace coordination for aviation operations supporting Joint Task Force-East (JTF-E). All rotary wing (RW) and fixed wing (FW) US military aircraft conducting flight operations in support of JTF-E will comply with the JTF-E Aviation SOP for Bulgaria. For subjects not addressed within this SOP, pilots will apply appropriate US Department of Defense (DoD) regulations, NATO regulations, Bulgarian national regulations, or International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) rules.

2. The VF will respect the regulations stated in the Bulgarian Aeronautical Information Publication AIP. US military aircraft will respect the procedures established for General Aviation Traffic (GAT) unless identified by the flight plan as operating as Operational Air Traffic (OAT) within areas activated as Temporary Segregated Areas (TSA) designated for military flying.

3. The definitions of GAT and OAT, as applied in this annex, are adapted from the Eurocontrol Common Format Letter of Agreement (ed. 02 June 2001), paragraph 1.3.

a. General Air Traffic. “Flights conducted in accordance with the rules and procedures of ICAO and/or national civil aviation regulations and legislation”.

b. Operational Air Traffic. “All flights which do not comply with the provisions stated for GAT and for which rules and procedures have been specified by appropriate national authorities”.

c. The term OAT, as it is applied throughout this annex, implies US military air traffic flying in accordance with the provision of this annex and, as applicable, the aviation rules governing the US DoD or NATO as mentioned in paragraph 1, above.

4. The Parties agree as follows:

a. ATSA ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

(1) The VF and Air Traffic Services Authority (ATSA) will coordinate to develop an inadvertent IMC (IIMC) emergency recovery procedure for aircraft that accidentally encounter IMC.

(2) Day Visual Flight Rules (VFR) and Instrumental Flight Rules (IFR) flights and night IFR flights are allowed for MEDEVAC operations, lift operations and training

flights. Night/night vision goggle VFR flights, as well as applying different than GAT procedures are allowed only inside TSAs.

(3) HN ATS will expedite flight plan processing and flight clearance for all VF MEDEVAC aircraft flying under call sign “EVAC”. Pre-approved and/or preferred routing will be given to VF MEDEVAC flying to/from hospitals, airfields, or other designated landing zones. Routing and landing zones will be provided by HN upon arrival of VF aircraft to Bulgaria.

(4) HN will provide a HN Aviation LNO to facilitate the filing of flight plans when requested.

b. AIR TRAFFIC SERVICES and AIRSPACE MANAGEMENT:

(1) HN will make available airspace for accomplishing aircraft maintenance test flights during JTF-E aviation operations in Bulgaria.

(2) The HN will allocate the VF an exclusive set of transponder mode 3A codes for use by VF aircraft flying in support of JTF-E.

(3) Air traffic services in airspace (class-C, E, G) will be provided by agencies of the HN (civil) Air Traffic Services Authority.

(4) Air traffic services in TSAs will be provided by agencies of the HN military.

c. FLIGHT PLANS:

(1) All VF aircraft flying in HN airspace will file a flight plan through their HN Aviation LNO, who will then file the flight plan with an appropriate ATS facility. VF will reserve the right to file flight plans through to the United States Army Europe (USAREUR) Army Flight Operations Detachment (AFOD). If used, AFOD will be responsible for the submission of JTF-E flight plans to the HN (civil) air traffic services authorities to ensure timely flight plan approval. Pilots will observe the following when developing flight plan routing:

- All prohibited areas shall be circumnavigated, except where specifically granted a waiver by the HN to penetrate.
- All active danger areas shall be circumnavigated.

ANNEX E – JTF-E AVIATION STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES FOR BULGARIA, FY 2008 ROTATION

- All active temporary reserved airspace not involved in exercise shall be circumnavigated.
- All active military airfields shall be circumnavigated by 5 NM (10 NM at Graf Ignatievo) unless granted permission to overfly or land by HN controlling agency.

(2) In the event of an in-flight aircraft emergency, nothing in this annex shall prevent the pilot from taking the most prudent action to minimize the potential for aircraft damage or loss of life.

d. FACILITIES SUPPORT

(1) HN grants VF aircraft permission to park aircraft overnight at all active civil aerodromes, at no cost, for the duration of JTF-E operations. HN will guarantee aircraft have secure parking areas.

(2) HN will accommodate VF safety or security personnel to inspect the airfield and facilities prior to use or prior to any visit from VF distinguished visitors.

(3) HN will identify and provide for VF MEDEVAC, a helicopter landing zone (HLZ) within a secure area of the NSTA and in the vicinity of each designated hospital. The HN will establish procedures with local or military police to clear and secure HLZs when needed for emergency MEDEVAC. The HN Medical LNO will contact hospitals when these HLZs are to be used to ensure that an ambulance is there to meet aircraft. HLZs will be free from overhead obstructions and hazards to helicopter traffic. Approximate minimum lateral boundaries for HLZ sites should be 100 m x 50 m. HLZ surfaces should be reasonably flat and free of wires, debris, and other obstacles to support the movement of injured patients to the helicopter by litter or vehicle. Unsecured HLZ sites that may require a security force presence just prior to a helicopter landing are:

- Sliven Military Hospital
- Sofia airport LBSF
- Burgas Airport LBBG

e. CLEARANCE & CUSTOMS:

ANNEX E – JTF-E AVIATION STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES FOR BULGARIA, FY 2008 ROTATION

(1) VF aircraft participating in JTF-E 2008 will utilize blanket diplomatic flight clearance number KO-5-17 as published in the Foreign Clearance Guide. The VF will coordinate with USDAO Sofia for use of this diplomatic clearance number for the duration of the exercise. After coordination is completed with USDAO Sofia, this blanket diplomatic clearance number may be utilized by VF aircraft to conduct MEDEVAC, lift and training flights within Bulgaria and cross border lift flights to and from Romania. The approved diplomatic clearance number with the remark “JTF-E 2008” will be cited in block 18 of ICAO or DD Form 1801 flight plans submitted by participating VF aircraft. The VF will provide the HN, via USDAO SOFIA, the names of all aircrew no later than four days prior to the scheduled arrival date in country.

(2) HN will offer VF military aircraft the same protections and exemptions as “state” aircraft, as described in the Bulgarian AIP GEN 4.

(3) The VF aircraft pilot in command reserves the right to determine who may board the aircraft. The HN will make no requirement for observers or navigators to ride onboard VF aircraft. VF aircrews will observe applicable DoD or AE Regulation 95-1 guidance when determining who may board.

f. OTHER:

(1) HN reserves the right to conduct civilian/military rescue, medical, and firefighting flights or ground operations within the JTF-E 2008 exercise area (NSTA).

(2) In case of a VF aircraft malfunction or crash, the HN will provide security personnel to guard the aircraft until the aircraft is removed to a secure aerodrome. In such cases, the HN will allow the VF to send additional personnel, equipment, or aircraft as necessary to repair or replace the aircraft.

5. VF and HN points of contact for this annex are:

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