

Military Surface Deployment and Distribution Command

Customer Advisory

June 16, 2023

CA-16-10-27/0102

Update 1

Subject: US Navy Shipments To, From, and Within the United Kingdom (UK)

Purpose: Provide guidance to all U.S. Navy Shipping activities, (to include U.S. Navy CTF logisticians and planners), that must comply with the following requirements before moving any cargo to, from, or within the UK, which includes England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, and Wales.

Be Advised: Due to size, proximity, and preponderance of use, the US Air Force acts as the executive agent for DOD transportation in the UK, including customs clearance. Advance notification is not required for commercial movements or shipments arriving at RAF Mildenhall via Air Mobility Command (AMC), but shipments must clearly identify the US Navy unit or vessel receiving activity and be addressed to a military facility. Include USAFE-UK Host Nation Coordination Cell (HNCC)/Transportation and Customs (T&C) (usafeuk.a4.customs@us.af.mil) in all booking and shipping documents, and as a point of contact for customs purposes.

For MILAIR arrivals to ports other than RAF Mildenhall, USAFE-UK HNCC T&C will require a copy of the final cargo manifest, flight ETA and airport of arrival together with confirmation of use in the UK, (e.g., USN participants in exercises, training, cargo/mail destined to named visiting vessel).

For commercial air arrivals, USAFE-UK HNCC T&C recommends advising of US Navy attendees at exercises, training or of DODAAC and/or vessel name if delivery is not addressed c/o the US Navy at Crombie. Details should include name of exercise, duration and the addresses to which cargo is to be sent.

This guidance applies to all shipments made for, or on behalf, of US Navy ashore and afloat activities, deployments, and exercises, and Navy Oceanographic and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, whether through DOD airlift channels, direct-to-destination organic Navy airlift (NALO), or commercial carriers (FedEx, UPS, DHL, etc.).

The NATO SOFA (Articles XI, XII, and XIII), authorizes duty free import, export and in transit movement of U.S. Forces shipments regardless of the transportation mode used. However, in order for shipments to be eligible for duty-free entry, the shipments must be cleared by UK customs authorities prior to delivery and clearly marked and labeled for US Visiting Forces.

Shipments addressed or marked for commercial carriers or companies, contractors, Husbanding Agents, third party service providers, private addresses, hotels, and/or other foreign military entities, will not be eligible for duty-free movement to or from the UK.

Erroneously addressed shipments can be confiscated by His Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC) authorities, placed into a frustrated status, potentially delaying delivery and negatively affecting critical US Navy mission requirements.

- Do NOT ship International Traffic in Arms Regulation (ITAR) regulated arms, ammunition, and explosives (AA&E), or weapons parts via commercial carrier (i.e., FedEx, DHL, UPS). These items are restricted and will be returned to shippers. Refer to DTR 4500.9-R Part II Chapter 205 for Transportation Protective Service (TPS) shipping guidance.

USAFE Instruction USAFEI 24-401, Customs Clearance Procedures for US Forces in the United Kingdom (UK), is in re-write; electronic clearance procedures through USAFE-UK HNCC/T&C appointed agents apply to the importation and exportation of official goods. USAFE-UK HNCC/T&C will perform required action after ensuring Visiting Forces criteria have been met.

- Include accurate NSN or NIIN proper shipping name description on shipping documentation. Generic descriptions such as "General Cargo", "X2INCRDMEDI" & "MULTI PAK" are not acceptable for proper customs clearance.

REFERENCES: DoD shippers' responsibilities are outlined in the following references:

- DTR 4500.9R, Part V, Chapter 510 United States European Command (USEUCOM)
- DoDD 4500.54E DoD Foreign Clearance Program
- Foreign Clearance Guide (<https://www.fcg.pentagon.mil>)

POCs:

For USAFE-UK HNCC T&C, please contact DSN: 314-238-7106, commercial 44 (0)1638 547106, or email: usafeuk.a4.customs@us.af.mil.

For U.S. Navy, please contact:

NAVSUP FLCSI C430 Operations: OPS.FLCSI.FCT@eu.navy.mil

NAVSUP FLCSI CODE 440 Regional Transportation Manager, at DSN: 314-624-2451, commercial 39-095-86-2451, or email NAVSUPFLCSI400@eu.navy.mil

Site Crombie: M-SI-NAVSUP-FLCSI-SITE-CROMBIE-GD@us.navy.mil

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