

**BY ORDER OF THE COMMANDER  
US AIR FORCES IN EUROPE AIR  
FORCES IN AFRICA**



**AIR FORCE INSTRUCTION 16-604 US  
AIR FORCES IN EUROPE-AIR FORCES  
AFRICA SUPPLEMENT**

**2 APRIL 2019**

*Certified Current, 11 JULY 2025*

**Operations Support**

**IMPLEMENTATION OF, AND  
COMPLIANCE WITH, THE TREATY ON  
OPEN SKIES, THE TREATY ON  
CONVENTIONAL ARMED FORCES IN  
EUROPE, AND THE VIENNA  
DOCUMENT ON CONFIDENCE AND  
SECURITY-BUILDING MEASURES**

**COMPLIANCE WITH THIS PUBLICATION IS MANDATORY**

---

**ACCESSIBILITY:** This publication is available on the e-Publishing website at <http://www.e-Publishing.af.mil> for downloading.

**RELEASABILITY:** There are no releasability restrictions on this publication.

---

OPR: USAFE-AFAFRICA/A8X

Certified by: USAFE-AFAFRICA/A8X  
(Col Jay Junkins)

Supersedes: AFI16-604\_USAFESUP,  
23 April 2015

Pages: 7

---

This supplement implements and extends the guidance of Air Force Instruction (AFI) 16-604, covering Air Force implementation of, and compliance with, the Treaty on Open Skies (hereinafter referred to as Open Skies). This supplement explains how Gateway support for United States Active Observation Missions (AOMs) are executed and how United States Air Forces in Europe (USAFE) prepares for and reacts to foreign Open Skies overflights over USAFE sites within the United States European Command (USEUCOM) Area of Responsibility (AOR). It also supplements guidance for the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe (hereinafter referred to as the CFE Treaty) and the Vienna Document on Confidence and Security-Building Measures (hereinafter referred to as Vienna Document). This publication may not be supplemented or further implemented/extended. This supplement applies to active duty United States Air Force (USAF) units located throughout the USEUCOM AOR. It also applies to Air Force (AF) detachments and offices located on Host Nation (HN) sites in theater. This supplement applies to Air Force Reserve Command (AFRC) and Air National Guard (ANG) units operating in the USEUCOM AOR. The authorities to waive wing/unit level requirements in

this publication are identified with a Tier (“T-0, T-1, T-2, T-3”) number following the compliance statement. See AFI 33-360, *Publications and Forms Management*, for a description of the authorities associated with the Tier numbers. Submit requests for waivers through the chain of command to the appropriate Tier waiver approval authority, or alternately, to the Publication OPR for non-tiered compliance items. Ensure that all records created as a result of processes prescribed in this publication are maintained IAW Air Force Manual (AFMAN) 33-363, *Management of Records*, and disposed of IAW Air Force Records Information Management System (AFRIMS) Records Disposition Schedule (RDS). Refer recommended changes and questions about this publication to the Office of Primary Responsibility (OPR) using AF Form 847, Recommendation for Change of Publication. Route AF Forms 847 from the field through the appropriate functional chain of command to HQ USAFE-AFAFRICA/A8XA, Unit 3277, APO AE 09094 or [USAFE.A8XA.ArmsControlBranch@us.af.mil](mailto:USAFE.A8XA.ArmsControlBranch@us.af.mil)

### ***SUMMARY OF CHANGES***

This supplement has been revised and requires a complete review. This revision modifies language to be consistent with the parent instruction. It also includes new guidance related to the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe and Vienna Document.

1.15.1. HQ USAFE-AFAFRICA A3/10 is the lead for developing the USEUCOM Concept of Operations in coordination with HQ USAFE-AFAFRICA/A2, A4 and A5/8/9.

1.15.1.2.1. **(Added)** HQ USAFE-AFAFRICA A3/10 and affected USAFE Wing/Installation Commanders will expeditiously coordinate acceptance with host nation air traffic control centers for the passage of foreign OST aircraft through any host nation airspace under temporary control of the US, including restricted, hazardous and parachute area airspace, in compliance with applicable Memorandums of Agreement (MOA), Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) or bilateral agreements. “Acceptance” denotes the controlling agency will guarantee the OST aircraft will have safe passage through the airspace (i.e., controlling agency will terminate all conflicting operations). It is imperative USAFE Wing/Installations that control airspace give the OST observation aircraft the highest priority. Immediately up-channel to HQ USAFE-AFAFRICA/A3C, HQ USAFE-AFAFRICA/A8X, USEUCOM/ECJ5-W and HQ USEUCOM Watch Center any difficulties encountered when coordinating foreign observation flights through host nation airspace under temporary control of the US. **(T-0)**

1.15.1.2.2. **(Added)** Should an In-Flight Emergency (IFE) or mishap cause the aircraft to land in a North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) member country, NATO Standardization Agreement (STANAG) 3531, (Safety Investigation and Reporting of Accidents/Incidents Involving Military Aircraft), STANAG 3896 (April 7, 2009) Aerospace Emergency Rescue and Mishap Response Information (Emergency Services) and STANAG 3531 (March 28, 2007) Safety Investigation and Reporting of Accidents/Incidents involving Military Aircraft, Missiles and/or Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs), will be utilized to facilitate a safety investigation. Should an IFE or mishap cause the aircraft to land in a non-NATO member country, International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Annex 13 or other agreed upon MOA (if any exist) may be used to facilitate a mishap investigation. If the aircraft is involved in a near mid-air collision, the affected countries owning the aircraft and the country over which the incident occurred may investigate the incident.

1.15.1.3.1. **(Added)** HQ USAFE-AFAFRICA/A4 has the lead in coordination with other A-Staff Offices, 603 AOC, HQ USEUCOM/ECJ4, Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA), and Air Combat Command (ACC), as needed, for logistic support of the US OST aircraft when in theater to conduct OST observation flights.

1.15.1.5.1. **(Added)** Air Force Office of Special Investigations (AFOSI) Region 5/CC, local AFOSI Detachments, HQ USAFE-AFAFRICA/A2, USAFE Threat Working Group (TWG), and 603 AOC/ISARC will monitor the threat situation in the deployed area for any changes to the threat situation that occur after the OST teams were last briefed. For immediate information the 603 AOC/ISARC will provide 24 hour intelligence monitoring while the aircraft is in the USEUCOM AOR and will route any updates to the 603 AOC/CCO for notification to the OST teams. The 603 AOC will establish procedures to contact the aircrew at all times while in the USEUCOM AOR and monitor aircraft movements.

1.15.1.6.1. **(Added)** 603<sup>rd</sup> AOC is responsible for tracking and monitoring all Open Skies aircraft movements in the USEUCOM AOR.

1.15.1.6.2. **(Added)** HQ USAFE-AFAFRICA/A8XA will provide personnel to transport hand-carried parts to deployed aircraft in the Russian Federation upon direction from AF/A10S. Personnel designated to transport parts must possess a Diplomatic Passport with a Russian Visa and will be included on the Open Skies Treaty list.

1.15.2.1. **(Added)** When directed, HQ USAFE-AFAFRICA/A4S will conduct airfield site security assessments in accordance with (IAW) the most current USEUCOM Antiterrorism (AT) Operations Order (OPORD) to support OST missions within the USEUCOM AOR.

1.15.3. The primary European Gateways for US OST missions are Ramstein Air Base, Germany, and Royal Air Force (RAF) Mildenhall, United Kingdom. HQ USAFE-AFAFRICA/A8XA, in coordination with HQ USAFE-AFAFRICA/A3O and AF/A10S, may designate other USAFE Main Operating Bases (MOB) as an alternate Gateway when mission requirements dictate.

1.15.3.1. HQ USAFE-AFAFRICA/A8XA will assign two full-time TCOs at/near the OST Gateways.

1.15.3.2.1. **(Added)** The HQ USAFE-AFAFRICA/A8XA servicing TCO will serve as the overall manager for logistical support for the aircraft and crew, to include security, lodging, meals, transportation, mission briefing room, weather support, aircraft operations, and maintenance support in accordance with either the approved Host Wing Open Skies Gateway Plan or signed Execution Order while the aircraft is at the Gateway.

1.15.3.2.2. **(Added)** USAFE Wing/Installation Commanders will provide supplemental maintenance support to the 55th Wing (55 WG), Offutt AFB, Nebraska, and the 95th Reconnaissance Squadron (95 RS), RAF Mildenhall, as required to ensure the successful execution of US OST observation flights conducted in the USEUCOM AOR. (T-2)

1.15.3.2.3. **(Added)** The HQ USAFE-AFAFRICA/A8XA servicing TCO will coordinate with HN representatives to ensure any required sensor cover checks are accomplished. The HN will be responsible for submitting the Open Skies Format (OSF) 38 verifying the check was accomplished.

1.15.4.1. **(Added)** Upon notification of a foreign OST observation flight over their host country, affected Wing/Installation/Unit Commanders will assume their installation(s) may be over flown and will implement necessary Operations Security (OPSEC) procedures to protect classified or

sensitive information for the entire observation period. Wing/Installation/Unit Commanders will be responsible for determining their individual vulnerabilities based on their operational mission and the OST aircraft sensor capabilities. See USAFE Supplement to AFI 10-701, Paragraph 4.7. and sub-paragraphs, for more detail. (T-2)

1.15.4.2. **(Added)** If the HN provides the foreign OST flight plan data, the HQ USAFE-AFAFRICA/A8XA Staff or servicing TCO will evaluate the flight plan to determine which units, facilities, or exercises will be overflowed by the observation aircraft. HQ USAFE-AFAFRICA/A8XA Staff and/or the servicing TCO will make required notifications to include affected permanent and deployed Wings/Units, the Command OPSEC Program Manager, HQ USEUCOM/ECJ3 and ECJ5 Offices, Navy Battle Watch, and the Regional and local AFOSI.

1.15.5.1. **(Added)** Only the primary OST Gateways at Ramstein and RAF Mildenhall will be required to develop a compliance plan IAW the requirements in paragraph 1.17.5.1.1. Other USAFE Wings/ Installations will utilize the Execute Order (EXORD) template and checklists maintained on the HQ USAFE-AFAFRICA/A8XA SharePoint site if/when they are required to serve as an alternate OST Gateway. (T-3)

1.15.5.1.1. **(Added)** The installation OST compliance plan will include, but is not limited to, billeting, transportation (UDI for aircrew, maintenance, DTRA and crew bus), weather support, base entry, notification procedures, aircraft services (fuel, water, air, de-icing, lavatory, flight meals, and parking), logistics, mission planning support and Host Nation coordination.

1.15.6. **(Added)** USAFE Wing/Installation Commander at the primary Open Skies Gateways will provide information on scheduled runway maintenance and closures to the HQ USAFE-AFAFRICA/A8XA servicing TCO in advance of the scheduled activity. The HQ USAFE-AFAFRICA/A8XA servicing TCO will provide this information to HQ USAFE-AFAFRICA/A3IO and AF/A10-S as soon as it is available. (T-3)

1.15.7. **(Added)** USAFE Wing/Installation Commanders may be required to provide support to foreign OST aircraft during shared missions or transit flights. Support in these circumstances will be similar to services provided for the US OST aircraft, except there will not be any weather briefing requirement, other than the normal transit flight update at weather operations. (T-2)

1.22.1. The HQ USAFE-AFAFRICA Command Center (i.e. HQ USAFE-AFAFRICA/A10NO) and Wing Command Posts will serve as the 24-hour points of contact (POCs) for the sending and receiving of all OST notifications IAW inspection notification quick response checklists (QRC) developed in conjunction with HQ USAFE-AFAFRICA/A8XA. Wing Command Posts will notify designated leadership personnel and the servicing TCO, per local QRCs developed in conjunction with the servicing TCO. HQ USAFE-AFAFRICA/A8XA servicing TCOs will provide notifications to all affected permanent and deployed United States Air Force (USAF) units in their assigned countries. In addition, HQ USAFE-AFAFRICA/A8XA Staff will make up-channel notifications to USAFE-AFAFRICA and Third Air Force (3 AF) leadership for foreign overflights over European countries where US assets are present.

1.23. **High Value Activity (HVA) and Significant Event (SE) Reporting in Europe.** USAFE-AFAFRICA Staff and or USAFE Wings/Installations have little opportunity to impact OST observation flights over the HN but the Command can affect US activities that could impact the observation flight or be impacted by the observation flight.

1.23.1. USAFE-AFAFRICA has a different process for collecting information on HVAs and SEs for OST missions in the USEUCOM AOR. There are three key responsibilities associated with foreign OST observation flights: disseminating notifications, reporting HVAs/SEs and protecting OPSEC. In USAFE-AFAFRICA, specific tasks associated with these general responsibilities are contained in the USAFE Supplement to AFI 10-701, Paragraph 4.7. and sub-paragraphs.

1.23.3. **(Added)** USAFE-AFAFRICA will establish an Action Officer Open Skies Working Group (OSWG), led by a representative from HQ USAFE-AFAFRICA/A5/8/9, and including the USAFE OPSEC Manager, A2, A3, and A4 to coordinate actions associated with these OST observation flight responsibilities and to review and respond to OST tasks from higher headquarters (HQ).

1.23.4. **(Added)** HQ USAFE-AFAFRICA/A2 will analyze the OST sensor capabilities and provide a detailed analysis to HQ USAFE-AFAFRICA A3/10, Command OPSEC Program Manager and USAFE Wing/Installation Commanders, as required, to help them determine their OPSEC program vulnerabilities.

1.25. **The HQ USAFE-AFAFRICA/A8XA servicing Regional TCO** will draft Gateway Mission Reports on behalf of the Wing/Installation not later than (NLT) three duty days following each Gateway mission. A template for the report can be found on the HQ USAFE-AFAFRICA SharePoint site. HQ USAFE-AFAFRICA/A8XA Staff will submit the reports to AF/A10P NLT 5 duty days following each duty mission.

2.15.1.1. **(Added)** USAFE roles, responsibilities and procedures for the Conventional Armed Forces in Europe Treaty are contained in USAFE-AFAFRICA Instruction 16-611, Implementation of, and Compliance with, the Conventional Armed Forces in Europe (CFE) Treaty. This instruction covers the compliance for all requirements contained in this parent instruction in regards to the CFE Treaty.

2.15.1.2. **(Added)** USAFE roles, responsibilities and procedures for the Vienna Document of 2011 (VDOC 11) are contained in USAFE-AFAFRICA Instruction 16-612, Implementation of, and Compliance with the Vienna Document 2011 (VDOC 11) Agreement. This instruction covers the compliance for all requirements contained in this parent instruction in regards to VDOC 11.

MICHAEL KOSCHESKI, Brig Gen, USAF  
Director, Plans, Programs and Analyses

**Attachment 1****GLOSSARY OF REFERENCES, ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS*****References***

**(Added)** AFI 16-601, *Implementation of, and Compliance with, International Arms Control and Nonproliferation Agreements*, 7 August 2018

**(Added)** AFI 16-601 with USAFE-AFAFRICA Supplement, *Implementation of, and Compliance with, International Arms Control and Nonproliferation Agreements*, 15 February 2019

**(Added)** AFI 16-604, *Implementation of, and Compliance with, the Treaty on Open Skies, the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe and the Vienna Document on Confidence and Security Building Measures*, 14 September 2018

**(Added)** European Command Instruction (ECI) 2301.05, *Implementation of the Vienna Document 2011 of Confidence and Security Building Measures*, 12 March 2018

**(Added)** STANAG 3531, *Safety Investigation and Reporting of Accidents/Incidents Involving Military Aircraft*, March 28, 2007 **(duplicated in paragraph 1.15.1.2.1.)**

**(Added)** STANAG 3896, *Aerospace Emergency Rescue and Mishap Response Information (Emergency Services)*, April 7, 2009

***Prescribed Forms***

None.

***Adopted Forms***

None.

***Abbreviations and Acronyms***

**(Added)** AFOSI—Air Force Office of Special Investigations

**(Added)** AFRC—Air Force Reserve Command

**(Added)** AT—Antiterrorism

**(Added)** ANG—Air National Guard

**(Added)** AOM—Active Observation Mission

**(Added)** AOR—Area of Responsibility

**(Added)** DTRA—Defense Threat Reduction Agency

**(Added)** EXORD—Execute Order

**(Added)** HN—Host Nation

**(Added)** HVA—High Value Activity

**(Added)** IAW—in accordance with

**(Added)** ICAO—International Civil Aviation Organization

- (Added) **IFE**—In-Flight Emergency
- (Added) **MOA** —Memorandums of Agreement
- (Added) **MOB** —Main Operating Base
- (Added) **MOU** —Memorandums of Understanding
- (Added) **NATO**—North Atlantic Treaty Organization
- (Added) **NLT**—Not Later Than
- (Added) **OPORD**—Operations Order
- (Added) **OPSEC**—Operations Security
- (Added) **OSF**—Open Skies Format
- (Added) **OST**—Open Skies Treaty
- (Added) **POC**—points of contact
- (Added) **QRC**—Quick Response Checklist
- (Added) **RAF**—Royal Air Force
- (Added) **SE**—Significant Event
- (Added) **STANAG**—Standardization Agreement
- (Added) **TCO**—Treaty Compliance Officer
- (Added) **TWG**—Threat Working Group
- (Added) **UAV**—Unmanned Aerial Vehicle