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TALKING PAPER

ON

HUMANITARIAN AID FLIGHT PROCEDURES

Pursuant to a discussion between Mr. Frank Hatfield, Senior Advisor to Civil Aviation and Major General Elder, Deputy Coalition Forces, Air Component Commander (CFACC) on 16 Jul, Major General Elder has determined that the current threat assessment is such that flight check operations can be allowed along with a limited number of commercial operations at Basra International Airport; however, if threat assessment changes, the Deputy CFACC may revisit this decision.

Humanitarian Aid International Organizations and Non-Governmental Organizations follow procedures set forth by the Iraqi Assistance Center (IAC) to obtain approval for movement of personnel and cargo into Iraq.

The IAC coordinates air operations with the Regional Air Movement Coordination Center (RAMCC) for flight slot times to prevent conflicts with military air operations. The RAMCC operates under CFACC's authority. Procedures for obtaining flight authorization and information about flying into Iraq are posted on the RAMCC web site (www.centaf.af.mil/ramcc). An extract of the current published procedures appears below:

BAGHDAD FLIGHT INFORMATION REGION (FIR) CONTROL AUTHORITY

The Combined Forces Air Component Commander (CFACC) is the Airspace Control Authority (ACA) for Iraq and the BAGHDAD FIR effective 19 March 2003 until further notice. The procedures for flight operations detailed here are mandatory for all aircraft operators authorized to fly to/from destinations or in or through the BAGHDAD FIR. They are designed for the safety of military flights, humanitarian aid (HA) flights carried out by the United Nations, Non-Government Organization (NGOs), other International Organizations (IOs), and other authorized flights. Operators of aircraft intending to land at an Iraqi airport shall contact the Regional Air Movement Control Center (RAMCC) for prior approval (contact details below). All aircraft shall have CFACC approval for flights in the BAGHDAD FIR and for landing in Iraq.

RISKS TO FLIGHT AND COMPLIANCE WITH THESE PROCEDURES

All operators are warned that there are ongoing military operations in Iraq and non-military flight operations could be at significant risk. There are continuing reports of indiscriminate missile and small arms attacks on aircraft operating in Iraq. Operators undertake flights within the BAGHDAD FIR at their own risk. Compliance with these procedures is mandatory and it is imperative for safety that the procedures below are strictly adhered to.

Aircraft movements in the BAGHDAD FIR to designated airports are controlled by a slot time allocation scheme. In order to obtain a slot time, all civil

operators shall sign a Release of Liability (Hold Harmless Agreement) provided by RAMCC. The AIP, Release of Liability Form and Slot Request Form can all be found on the RAMCC web site of www.centaf.af.mil/ramcc. The Release of Liability form is good for one year.