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**NATO STANDARD**

**ATP-3.12.1.2**

**ALLIED TACTICAL DOCTRINE FOR  
MILITARY SEARCH TRAINING  
REQUIREMENTS**

Edition A Version 1

DECEMBER 2016



**NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION**

**ALLIED TACTICAL PUBLICATION**

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**NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANISATION (NATO)**

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**NATO LETTER OF PROMULGATION**

14 December 2016

1. The enclosed Allied Tactical Publication ATP-3.12.1.2, Edition A, Version 1, ALLIED TACTICAL DOCTRINE FOR MILITARY SEARCH TRAINING REQUIREMENTS, which has been approved by the nations in the Military Committee Land Standardization Board, is promulgated herewith. The agreement of nations to use this publication is recorded in STANAG 2626.
2. ATP-3.12.1.2, Edition A, Version 1 is effective upon receipt.
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Edvardas MAŽEIKIS  
Major General, LTUAF  
Director NATO Standardization Office

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## RECORD OF SPECIFIC RESERVATIONS

[nation]	[detail of reservation]
DEU	Annex A, Page A-2, Line 21 Delete: Coordinate legal aspects of military search with host nations. Alternative: Insert: Coordinate legal aspects of military search with host nations together with the LEGAD. Rationale: The Search Advisor can perform this task after clearance with the LEGAD when it is the Provost Marshal in the same time.
EST	EDF don't have and on near future there are no plans to establish Military search teams, but EOD teams are qualified and capable to support the military search operations.
<p>Note: The reservations listed on this page include only those that were recorded at time of promulgation and may not be complete. Refer to the NATO Standardisation Document Database for the complete list of existing reservations.</p>	

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<b>PREFACE</b>
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**AIM**

1. The aim of this document is to provide the required Military Search minimum training requirements, for service in operational theatres where Military Search is conducted.

**AGREEMENT**

2. Nations agree to train appropriate individuals and units whose role includes deployment in operational theatres where Military Search is conducted, to the Military Search training requirements defined in this publication.

**GENERAL**

3. As a principle means of both carrying the fight to the enemy and of defending friendly forces, effective Military Search operations make a key contribution to coalition success.

4. Military Search is the capability to locate specified targets using systematic procedures and appropriate detection techniques. Search capability is delivered through a multi layered response that is utilised depending on the threat and type of target. A Search Advisor works within the planning sphere to determine the effect required, threat faced and insert key Military Search planning data in to the operational planning cycle to establish the best solution to achieve a given mission. A search team conduct a search operation under the guidance of the Search Advisor.

5. Military Search concept of operations requires planning and organizing in order to support and deliver a number of effects to reinforce a Commander's intent in offensive and defensive operations from tactical through to operational level and the plan is built around achieving these effects;

- a. **Shape** the conditions for operations.
- b. **Deter** adversaries.
- c. **Deny resources and freedom of manoeuvre for the adversaries.**
- d. **Exploit** the technical and tactical aspects gained through Search operations.

6. Military Search consists of two types of objectives, offensive and defensive search. They are fundamental in achieving the four search effects mentioned above.

7. Conducting Military Search will include cooperation, coordination between allied and other nations including other organisations, understanding the threat, and the sharing of intelligence and delivering consisting capabilities.

8. The key enabler to a holistic NATO Military Search capability that exploits the unique strengths and mitigates the challenges of coalition operations is military education and training that include sharing of current information, tactics, techniques, and procedures (TTPs), interoperability, standardisation and common tactical capabilities.

9. In this environment, it is important that individuals and units are appropriately trained in Military Search concepts and procedures to the level required. How nations conduct their training is a national responsibility, but they must ensure common understanding and interoperability within the force.

### **DETAILS OF THE AGREEMENT**

10. The requirements are written to fit both tasks and training objectives; thus they can be readily developed into the necessary training material, courses, packages and exercises that will be necessary to bring individuals and units to respective training standards.

### **IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREEMENT**

11. This publication is implemented when a nation has issued the necessary orders or instructions to authorities and units concerned to put the standards and procedures detailed in this agreement into effect.

### **POINT OF CONTACT**

12. Point of Contact (POC) for ATP-3.12.1.2(A) is the NATO Military Engineering Centre of Excellence, Manchingenstr. 1, 85053 Ingolstadt, Germany. Comm.: +49-841-88660-5421, Email: [somove1@milengcoe.org](mailto:somove1@milengcoe.org).

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## ANNEX A

NATO MILITARY SEARCH ADVISOR TRAINING  
REQUIREMENTS

1. The division of Search Advisor training requirements is determined by the role and responsibilities of the level at which the Search Advisor is employed. While there is significant overlap in the duties, not all of the challenges faced by staff officers at higher headquarters are the same as those faced by advisors at the tactical level<sup>1</sup>.
2. The training requirements are based on the effects that can be achieved by Military Search operations in order to maintain the operational focus of Search Advisors. As such, they can be easily developed into focused training material, courses, packages and exercises to bring individuals to respective training standards.
3. Nations agree to train individuals to carry out the following tasks to the level appropriate to their role in order to ensure competency and currency.

**Search Advisor training requirements**

<b>Roles and Responsibilities Common to all Search Advisors</b>
Explain Military Search Applicability
Explain Military Search doctrine <sup>2</sup> and purpose
Describe Military Search objectives and effects
Describe Military Search relationship in support of military operations
Explain Commander's planning guidance in context of Military Search
Advise on military search TTPs, including but not limited to: Search response
Advise on military search TTPs, including but not limited to: Forensic treatment of materiel
Advise on military search TTPs, including but not limited to: Reporting and information collection
Advise on military search TTPs, including but not limited to: Determine appropriate support to search response required
Understand the capabilities, responsibilities, and support requirements of military search teams
Understand the capabilities, responsibilities, and support requirements of supporting agencies and or units
Understand interoperability issues and command relationship with troop contributing nations and other organizations
Produce all relevant orders for military search operations
Determine Military Search responsibilities

<sup>1</sup> Tactical level Search Advisors are likely to be both commanders and staff officers.

<sup>2</sup> STANAG 2283 (ATP 3.12.1.1 Allied Tactical Doctrine for Military Search)

Describe Military Search principles
Describe hierarchy of Military Search
Determine Military Search roles (Search Advisor, Search Team Commander, supporting assets to have MWD, EOD, ECM, etc.)
Produce Military Search threat assessment and assessment of risk
Identify unit capabilities in relation to Military Search
Recognise limitations and shortfalls in Military Search capabilities <sup>3</sup>
Identify contingency and mitigate limitations
Disseminate Military Search Team debriefings and reports
Coordination with Host Nation Forces and non-military organisations
Understand the role of law enforcement agencies and their relationship to military search assets
Identify adversary TTPs
Incorporate Military Search related Electronic Counter Measure (ECM) procedures in to Military Search operations
Conduct debriefings to staff and Search Teams as required
Evaluate and adjust Military Search Operations based on Lessons Identified Analysis
Evaluate and adjust interoperability in emerging TTPs

<b>Roles and Responsibilities of Higher HQ Search Advisors</b>
Describe the purpose of exploitation
Coordinate legal aspects of military search with host nation
Lead a Mil Search Planning Provide guidance and/or leadership during the search planning
Assess the achieved search effects
Support the targeting process
Monitor forensic aspects and support to law enforcement

<b>Roles and Responsibilities of Tactical Level Search Advisors</b>
Explain Military Search procedures
Advise on the priority of work for search assets
Conduct military search operations
Identify friendly and own unit tactics, techniques & procedure (TTP) patterns
Describe the individual's role in military search operations
Advise on military search TTPs, including but not limited to: Stages of a search
Advise on military search TTPs, including but not limited to: Use of equipment
Advise on military search TTPs, including but not limited to: Health and safety principles and procedures
Conduct technical and forensic material preservation
Conduct technical and forensic material collection (in extremis only) <sup>4</sup>
Complete search documentation

<sup>3</sup> IAW NATO Force Generation Process

<sup>4</sup> When specialist WIS/WIT or forensic collection teams are not available or if specifically directed to do so.



## ANNEX B

## NATO MILITARY SEARCH TEAM TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

1. Military Search Team training requirements are tabulated below. They are written to fit both tasks and training objectives; thus they can be easily developed into the necessary training material, courses, packages and exercises that will be necessary to bring individuals to respective training standards.
2. Nations agree to train Military Search Teams to carry out the following tasks to the level appropriate to their role in order to ensure competency and currency.
3. Tasks.

Be aware of Military Search Applicability
Be aware of the capabilities, responsibilities and support requirements of military search teams
Be aware of the capabilities, responsibilities, and support requirements of supporting agencies and or units
Be aware of all individual's role in military search operations
Be aware of the effects of explosives
Understand hierarchy of Military Search
Understand Military Search objectives and effects
Understand all relevant orders for military search operations
Understand and act on a risk/response assessment
Understand the purpose of exploitation
Understand own limitations and shortfalls within capabilities
Understand the prevalent threat and methods of attack employed by an adversary
Understand the role of law enforcement agencies and their relationship to military search assets
Be capable of explaining Military Search procedures
Be capable of describing Military Search principles
Be capable of conducting military search operations in order to target resources within capabilities
Be capable of complying with the legal aspects of Military Search operations
Be capable of distinguishing between explosive objects, and their component parts, from non-explosive objects in order to avoid or inhibit them
Be capable of working with Host Nation Forces and non-military organisations
Be capable of carrying out military search TTPs, to the level appropriate to their role including but not limited to:
a. Stages of a search
b. Use of equipment
c. Forensic treatment of materiel
d. Reporting and information collection
e. Health and safety principles and procedures
Be capable of carrying out the correct action on location of a find
Be capable of recovering physical evidence within capabilities
Be capable of maintaining and prepare search equipment
Be capable of producing appropriate Search documentation
Be capable of incorporating Military Search related Electronic Counter Measure (ECM) procedures

in to Military Search operations
Be capable of following and safeguarding TTPs and search equipment
Be capable of ensuring all search personnel have adequate national security clearance
Be forensically aware and understand the continuity of evidence
Contribute to Military Search Team debriefings and documentation
Contribute to post-operational documentation
Contribute to the adjustment of Military Search Operations based on Lessons Identified
Competent and current on appropriate equipment
Competent and current on Search tasks at the appropriate level
Support the targeting process
Conduct debriefings as required
Assess the achieved search results

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