

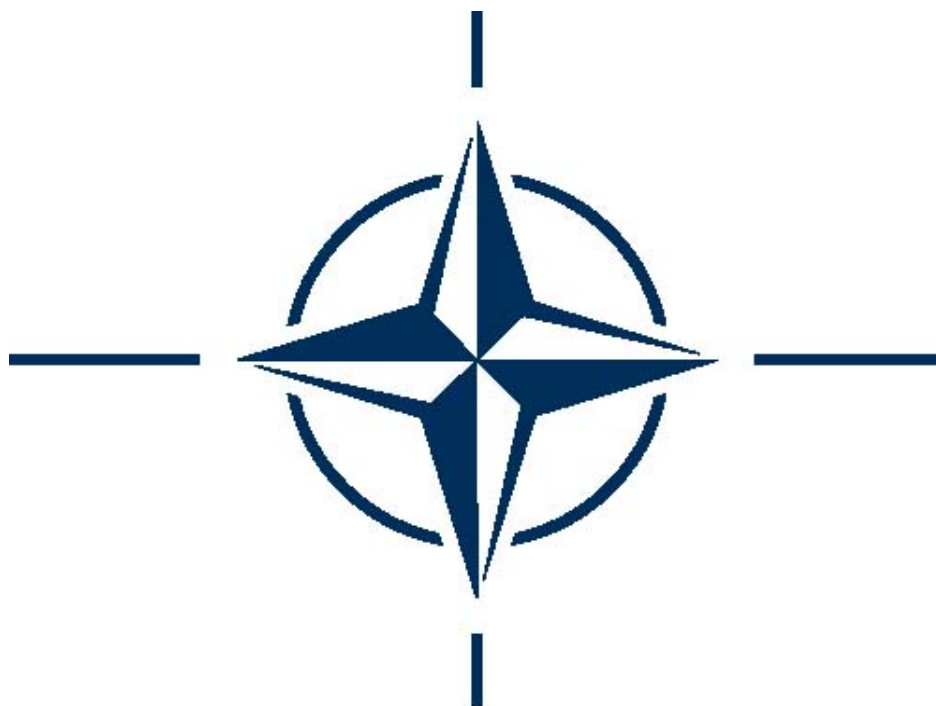
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**NATO STANDARD**

**ATP-85**

**EMERGENCY ALARMS OF HAZARD  
OR ATTACK (CHEMICAL, BIOLOGICAL,  
RADIOLOGICAL AND NUCLEAR  
(CBRN) AND AIR ATTACK ONLY)**

**Edition A Version 1  
NOVEMBER 2013**



**NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION**

**ALLIED TACTICAL PUBLICATION**

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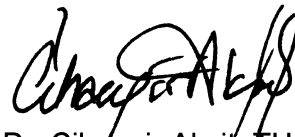
**NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION (NATO)**

**NATO STANDARDIZATION AGENCY (NSA)**

**NATO LETTER OF PROMULGATION**

7 November 2013

1. The enclosed Allied Tactical Publication ATP-85, Edition A, Version 1, EMERGENCY ALARMS OF HAZARD OR ATTACK (CHEMICAL, BIOLOGICAL, RADIOLOGICAL AND NUCLEAR (CBRN) AND AIR ATTACK ONLY), which has been approved by the nations in the MCJSB, is promulgated herewith. The agreement of nations to use this publication is recorded in STANAG 2047.
2. ATP-85, Edition A , Version 1, is effective upon receipt.
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4. This publication shall be handled in accordance with C-M(2002)60.



Dr. Cihangir Aksit, TUR Civ  
Director NATO Standardization Agency

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**RECORD OF SPECIFIC RESERVATIONS**

[nation]	[detail of reservation]
FRA	<p>France will not implement fully the provisions of the draft standard ATP-85(A).</p> <p>As far as visual signals are concerned, France excludes maritime approaches from the scope of this document. Indeed, the guidelines proposed for the visual signals used to give alarm of CBRN and air attacks are incompatible with safe navigation in coastal areas.</p>
GBR	<p>GBR ratifies this tactical doctrine and is already implemented within JDP 3-61.1. This will apply to all new automated systems. Legacy systems, if they are not compliant with this STANAG, will be upgraded at the capability renewal point and on a case-by-case basis. The UK also accommodates a minor national variation where the CBRN alarm can be raised by 3 blasts on a gas horn/ hunting horn/abeng/maroon horn or 3 strikes of a gong.</p>
LTU	<p>Audible and visual alarm signals according ATP-85 will be used only in military areas and installations during operations and exercises. Public (civil) warning system (network of civil defence sirens) in LTU is managed by Fire and Rescue Department under the Ministry of the Interiors. It does not correspond to ATP-85(A) requirements. In case of emergency there is only one type of sound signal (3 minutes of warbling tone) meaning "Attention! Listen to the radio or television and follow the official information and instructions" launched over mainly populated areas. After the signal "Attention" over State and some commercial Radio and TV broadcasting means is transmitted information about hazard and recommendations to population. Additionally through the Infrastructure of Public Mobile Telephone Providers Networks on designated channels in 3 languages (Lithuanian, English and Russian) is transmitted short warning message about hazard.</p>
NLD	The Netherlands will not use visual alarm signals.
<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 Standardization Document Database for the complete list of existing reservations.</p>	

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<b>CHAPTER 1    AGREEMENT</b>
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**1.1.    AIM**

The aim of this publication is to provide a standard method of giving emergency alarms within the NATO Forces operating on land, of:

- a.    Chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear (CBRN) hazards and strikes.
- b.    Air attack.

**1.2.    AGREEMENT**

Participating nations agree that NATO Forces, when operating on land, will use the alarm signals detailed herein to give emergency alarms of hazard or attack.

**1.2.    DETAILS OF THE AGREEMENT**

Audible and visual alarm signals must be given by means which cannot easily be confused with other sounds or sights encountered in combat. The alarm signals will be given in all cases as soon as an attack or the presence of a hazard is detected. The alarm signals will be repeated throughout the unit area by all who hear or see the original alarm signal since most available alarm signals are generally limited in range. Additionally, audible and visual alarm signals should normally be supplemented by the simultaneous use of radio, telephone, computer and public address systems.

It is unlikely that personnel can understand and react quickly and correctly to more than two alarm signals. The following hazards require fast and correct reaction: use or presence of chemical or biological agents or the release of Toxic Industrial Materials (TIM) and an imminent air attack or missile interception. Therefore, alarm signals for these two hazards are mandatory. In the case of radiological contamination, a delay in personnel taking cover may be acceptable.

The spoken word (vocal alarm signals) remains the most effective means of informing troops in an emergency; to avoid inhalation of the contamination, one has first to take individual protective measures (i.e. donning the respirator) before giving alarm by means of the spoken word.

Visual alarm signals are included to supplement the audible alarm signals under conditions when audible signals may be lost due to other noises or to replace audible signals when the tactical situation does not permit the use of sound:

- a. Reliance should not be placed on visual alarm signals during the hours of darkness or in conditions of poor light.
- b. Visual alarm signals should be used when purely audible signals may be lost due to other noise.
- c. Visual signals should be used to warn those personnel arriving at a particular location of an imminent hazard.
- d. Apart from the audio-visual signals detailed at Note 2 of Annex A, normal signal flares are excluded from use as a color alarm signal for CBRN and Air Attack.
- e. Visual signals need not be displayed by mobile forces.

The actual form of a visual signal and method of display are left to the discretion of the local commander. Only the color at Annex A is mandatory. However, to aid recognition, it is recommended that the red signal preferably be square and the black signal preferably be triangular.

The alarm signals listed in this standard are primarily intended to serve as alarms of enemy action. They may be used, however, in an emergency when friendly action could produce similar effects on own forces.

Conflict with civil regulations. Alarm signals for use by NATO Forces operating on land are in Annex A. There are some differences between the alarm signals prescribed herein and some national civil defense alarm signals. These differences are considered minor for air attack. Reservations are indicated by each nation where nations or local regulations prohibit NATO Forces, operating in their territory, from sounding alarm signals in exercises and/or alarm signals incompatible with the public warning system in wartime.

Practice alarm signals. In those cases where nations or local regulations preclude sounding alarm signals during exercises, local commanders should negotiate with local authorities to obtain authorization to sound alarm signals periodically. In the absence of agreement, small alarm devices emitting sounds similar to the prescribed audible alarm signals and having limited range should be used during exercises to keep personnel familiar with the audible alarm signals.

**ANNEX A      EMERGENCY ALARM AND WARNING SIGNALS**

The following are emergency alarm and warning signals for NATO forces operating on land. In respect of the audible alarm signal, one or more of the signals listed below should be used.

<u>TYPE OF HAZARD</u>	<u>AUDIBLE ALARM SIGNAL</u>	<u>VISUAL WARNING SIGNAL</u>
1a. Imminent Air Attack.	1b.(1) Unbroken warbling siren for one minute.  (2) Succession of long blasts on vehicle horns, whistles, bugles or other wind instruments in a ratio of 3:1; approximately 3 seconds on and 1 second off.  (3) Vocal "AIR ATTACK", or corresponding national term where only one nation is involved.	1c Red. Preferably square in shape.
2a. Imminent arrival of, or presence of chemical or biological agents, or radiological hazards, resulting from the use of Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD), or the release of Toxic Industrial Materials (TIM) or CBR contamination as a Consequence Of missile Intercept (COI).	2b.(1) Interrupted warbling sound on a siren.  (2) Succession of short signals on vehicle or other horns or by beating metal or other objects in a ratio of 1 : 1; approximately 1 second on and 1 second off.  (3) In the case of an alarm for a chemical or biological agent: vocal "GAS, GAS, GAS", or corresponding national term where only one nation is involved.	2c.(1) Black. Preferably triangular in shape.  (2) Donning respirators and taking protective action followed by such hand signals as may be prescribed in local instructions. (See Notes 1, 2 and 3 under this table).

(4) In the case of an alarm for a radiological and nuclear hazard: vocal "FALLOUT, FALLOUT, FALLOUT" or corresponding national term where only one nation is involved.

3a. All Clear.

3b.(1) Vocal "all clear (specify type of attack)" or corresponding national term when only one nation is involved.

3c. Removal of appropriate warning signal.

(2) If used, a steady siren note for one minute or a sustain blast on a vehicle horn, whistle, bugle or other wind instrument to indicate absence of all CBRN and air attack hazards.

Notes:

1. Automatic alarms for the early and rapid detection of biological and chemical agents and radiological hazards may complement the devices referred to previously.
2. A special audio-visual pyrotechnic signal producing a whistle sound and a yellow, red, yellow display of lights may be used. The combination of colours should be produced as near simultaneously as possible.
3. To avoid internal radiological contamination respiratory protection is required.



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