

Commanding General, Naval Amphibious Force
Task Force 51, 5th Marine Expeditionary Brigade

October 21, 2021

Brigadier General Guy Levy
Chief of the Infantry and Paratroopers Corps
Israel Defense Force

Dear Brigadier General Levy,

Please accept my warmest wishes to you and your family and know that we are extremely excited to conduct the first large scale training between our two units. I know that both units will benefit tremendously from working and conducting this exercise shoulder to shoulder with each other.

Israel's support to my Naval Amphibious Force, serving under both U.S. Naval Forces Central Command (NAVCENT) and U.S. Marine Forces Central Command (MARCENT), thus far has been outstanding. I want to especially thank you for permitting our planners and leadership to come into Israel to conduct planning and integration with you and your soldiers. I am extremely confident that the groundwork they have set will ensure a challenging and rewarding training opportunity for both military forces.

I am writing this letter to respectfully request the requisite support needed to ensure a safe and successful training evolution.

1. **Israeli escort**— After offloading gear and equipment from the ship in port at Eilat, we respectfully request armed escort from the port of Eilat to the desired training area beginning on 1 November and during the movement from the training areas back to the port for backload on / around 11 November. The force intends to contract lift support for tactical vehicles and will contract busses for movement of personnel. We request permission to disembark up to 500 total pax, up to (18) light armored vehicles, (2) rocket launcher systems with associated vehicles and gear, and up to (20) tactical vehicles.
2. **Training Plan.** Below is a list of the major training areas and evolutions we request to conduct inside Israel.
 - a. **Infantry Training School** – We request permission to utilize the ranges, facilities, and training areas at the Infantry Training school. We request permission to occupy the ranges beginning on 2 November and remaining until 6 November and establish a basic life support area in the vicinity of the ranges. Request Israeli liaison officer to help facilitate and oversee bilateral and unilateral live fire training events. Further, we request, if feasible, a partner force to conduct live fire training alongside to demonstrate and enhance interoperability between our forces. It is our intention to conduct up to a company (-) size live fire training, both day and night, with indirect fire weapons and light and medium machine guns.
 - b. **Mala, National Training Center** – We request permission to utilize the Mala, National Training Center Military Operations in Urban Terrain (MOUT) facility as well as access to the contracted personnel that facilitate various aspects of training at Mala. We request occupation of the Mala from 7 – 12 November. We request permission to utilize the airspace around the Mala to support training with our organic CH-53 helicopter. We request permission to utilize our small and medium unmanned aerial systems (UAS) to further and enhance our training. In terms of training, the Marine force request classes, training, and TTPs for conducting subterranean operations. Whenever feasible, we request a partnered IDF force to train alongside and conduct force-on-force training.
 - c. **IMI:** We request permission to contract and utilize the IMI training facility for one day. We intend to send approximately (180) pax through the facility on the 11 November and look forward to exchanging techniques, tactics, and procedures with our IDF counterparts at the IMI.

- d. HIMARS: We request permission to utilize either the Nevatim Air Base or the Avda Air base to conduct a proof of concept with our HIMARS rocket launcher and our large fixed wing aviation assets. We intend to embark our HIMARS on an aircraft, fly them out of Israel for approximately 4 hours, and then fly the HIMARS back in on the same aircraft on the same day. We have identified the 8-9th of November as the window of opportunity to test this employment concept. Request approval of the airspace, logistical support, airfield runway, and staging areas to facilitate this evolution.

3. COVID. There will be no personnel departing the ship to conduct training unless they are 100% vaccinated and at least (2) full weeks has transpired between their final shot of the COVID vaccine and their debarking the ship for training. Each debarking person will be required to take a RAPID COVID test and the US doctor aboard the ship will certify 'negative' results prior to the force disembarking. This certification will be available no later than 24 hours prior to the commencement of the off load of personnel and gear from the US ship.

We are grateful for your support in this endeavor and sincerely look forward to beginning a strong and enduring partnership with you and your military. Please be assured of my highest respect and warmest personal regard and feel free to contact me directly whenever needed.

Very respectfully and
Sincerely yours



Brigadier General Farrell Sullivan, USMC
Commanding General
Naval Amphibious Force, Task Force 51/5
5th Marine Expeditionary Brigade
Naval Support Activity Bahrain