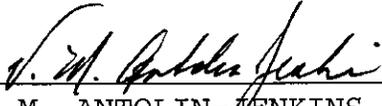


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**TECHNICAL ARRANGEMENT BETWEEN
THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
OF
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
AND
THE ARMY
OF
THE REPUBLIC OF FRANCE
REGARDING THE EXCHANGE
OF
MILITARY PERSONNEL
(SHORT TITLE: MPEP TECHNICAL ARRANGEMENT)**

22 JUL 2004

Certified to be a True Copy



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CDR, JAGC, USN

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PREAMBLE

In accordance with the Convention between signatories of the North Atlantic Treaty on the status of their forces (NATO SOFA), signed at London on 19 June 1951.

In accordance with the General Security of Classified Information Agreement between the governments of the French Republic and the United States of America, signed on 7 September 1977.

The United States Marine Corps of the United States of America (U.S.) and the Army of the Republic of France, hereinafter referred to as "the Parties," have agreed to establish a Military Personnel Exchange Program (MPEP), which is designed to strengthen bonds of friendship and understanding between the countries and their respective military organizations.

ARTICLE I

DEFINITIONS OF TERMS

The Parties have agreed upon the following definitions for terms used in this Technical Arrangement:

Technical Arrangement

The Military Personnel Exchange Technical Arrangement which formalizes this Exchange Program.

Controlled Unclassified Information

Unclassified information to which access or distribution limitations have been applied in accordance with applicable national laws or regulations. Whether the information is provided or generated under an Technical Arrangement, the information shall be marked to identify its "in confidence" nature. It could include information which has been declassified, but remains controlled.

Host Organization

The Military Service, Combatant Command, Defense Department/Ministry agency, staff, or equivalent organizations, to which exchange personnel are assigned for duty pursuant to this Exchange Program.

Host Party

The military service or organization to which the Host Organization belongs.

Military Exchange Personnel

Military personnel on active duty with the Parent Organization who are present in the territory of the Host Organization pursuant to this Exchange Program.

Parent

The Military Service, Combatant Command, Department/Ministry, organization, agency, staff, or equivalent organizations to which exchange personnel belong.

Parent Party

The military service or organization to which the Parent Organization belongs.

ARTICLE II

PURPOSE AND SCOPE

2.1. This Technical Arrangement establishes the terms and conditions by which the U.S. Marine Corps of the United States of America and the Army of the Republic of France (hereafter referred to as "the Parties"), agree to provide on-site working assignments to selected career military personnel (hereafter referred to as "Military Exchange Personnel") from the other Party. The work assignments shall provide Military Exchange Personnel work experience and knowledge of the organization and management of Host Organization activities by performing duties under the direction of a host supervisor. Exchanges of military personnel under this Technical Arrangement shall be conducted on a reciprocal basis (one-for-one in similar duties) so that the overall benefit to each Party shall be essentially equal. This Exchange Program shall not include training, except as provided in paragraph 4.4, and it is not to be used as a mechanism for the exchange of information between the Parties.

2.2. Military Exchange Personnel shall not be assigned to positions under this Exchange Program that would involve the release of classified information; communications security information; information for which foreign dissemination has been prohibited in whole or in part; information for which a special access authorization is required; information originated by another organization, department, agency or government; or controlled unclassified information, unless the specific information has been authorized in writing for release to the government of the Parent Party under an existing program or with the prior written consent of the appropriate disclosure authority, whichever is applicable.

2.3. Military Exchange Personnel shall not act in a liaison capacity or otherwise act as representatives of the Parent Party or the Parent Organization while assigned to exchange positions, nor shall they act as representatives of the Host Party or the Host Organization to which they are assigned. Military Exchange Personnel shall perform duties as defined in the position descriptions (PDs) for their respective positions.

ARTICLE III

SELECTION AND ASSIGNMENT OF PERSONNEL

3.1. Participation in this Exchange Program shall be on a highly selective basis from among career military personnel of the United States Marine Corps and the Army of France. The Parent Organization shall be solely responsible in the selection of its Military Exchange Personnel based on the following criteria:

3.1.1. They must have demonstrated capabilities for future positions of greater responsibility.

3.1.2. They must be well-versed in the current practices, technical training and doctrine of their organization, and be particularly qualified through experience for the exchange positions to be occupied.

3.1.3. They must possess the grade, skill, training, and academic qualifications which are described in the applicable position descriptions.

3.1.4. They must be sufficiently proficient in the language of the Host Party to satisfy the requirements of the positions.

3.2. Consistent with the nomination process, the Host Party shall be authorized to discharge exchange personnel from this Exchange Program who do not meet the above criteria. This decision is within the sole discretion of the Host Party.

3.3. The normal tour of duty for Military Exchange Personnel, exclusive of travel time between countries, shall be for a period of two or three years. Any time required for qualification and familiarization shall be in addition to the normal tour. Exceptions and/or adjustments of exchange tours shall be based on mutual agreement.

ARTICLE IV

FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

4.1. The Parent Party's responsibilities shall include, but shall not be limited to, the following costs for its *Military Exchange Personnel*:

4.1.1. All pay and allowances.

4.1.2. Travel to and from the country of the Host Party.

4.1.3. All temporary duty costs, including travel costs, when such duty is carried out at the request of the Parent Party.

4.1.4. The movement of dependents and the household effects of *Military Exchange Personnel*.

4.1.5. Preparation and shipment of remains and funeral expenses in the event of the death of *Military Exchange Personnel* or their dependents.

4.1.6. All expenses in connection with the return of *Military Exchange Personnel* who have been discharged from this Exchange Program and their accompanying dependents.

4.2. The Host Party shall be responsible for the following:

4.2.1. Travel and subsistence costs in connection with the performance of any duty carried out pursuant to a requirement of the Host Party.

4.2.2. Costs incurred as a result of a change in location of work ordered by the Host Party during the period of the exchange.

4.3. The Host Party shall not charge for the use of facilities or equipment necessary for the performance of tasks assigned to *Military Exchange Personnel*.

4.4. The Parent Party shall pay the costs of formal and informal training and professional military education (PME) of the personnel assigned in the exchange.

4.5. The Host Party shall not provide any supplies or services related to those costs that, by virtue of paragraph 4.1 above, are the obligation of the Parent Party. Accordingly, it shall be necessary for the Parent Party to make arrangements to defray such costs directly through its personnel, rather than by reimbursement to the Host Party.

ARTICLE V

SECURITY

5.1. During the selection process, each Party shall inform the other of the level of security clearance required, if any, to permit Military Exchange Personnel to have access to classified information and work areas. Access to classified information shall be kept to the minimum required to accomplish the work assignment, as determined by the Host Party based on the applicable position description.

5.2. Each Party shall cause security assurances to be filed, through the French Embassy in Washington, DC, in the case of the French personnel, and through the U.S. Embassy in Paris France, in the case of the United States personnel, stating the security clearances for all Military Exchange Personnel selected. The security assurances shall be prepared and forwarded through prescribed channels in compliance with established Host Party procedures.

5.3. The Host Organization and the Parent Organization shall ensure that assigned Military Exchange Personnel are fully cognizant of applicable laws and regulations concerning the protection of proprietary information (such as patents, copyrights, know-how, and trade secrets), classified information and controlled unclassified information to which access might be gained under this Exchange Program, both during and after termination of an assignment; and shall be required to sign the certification at Annex A.

5.4. Military Exchange Personnel shall at all times be required to comply with the security laws, regulations and procedures of the government of the Host Party. Any violation of security procedures by Military Exchange Personnel during their assignments shall be reported to the Parent Party for appropriate action. Military Exchange Personnel committing willful violations of security procedures during their assignments shall be withdrawn from this Exchange Program with a view toward administrative or disciplinary action by the Parent Party.

5.5. All classified information made available to Military Exchange Personnel shall be considered as Classified Information furnished to the Parent Party, and shall be subject to all provisions and safeguards provided for under the September 7, 1977 General Security of Military Information Agreement (GSOMIA) in force between the United States of America and France.

ARTICLE VI

TECHNICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

6.1. To the extent authorized by the laws and regulations of the government of the Host Party, the Host Organization shall arrange for the provision of administrative support as is deemed necessary for Military Exchange Personnel to perform assigned tasks efficiently. The Host Organization shall familiarize Military Exchange Personnel with any unique procedures necessary for the proper performance of their assigned tasks.

6.2. Consistent with the laws and regulations of the government of the Host Party, Military Exchange Personnel assigned under this Technical Arrangement shall be subject to the same restrictions, conditions, and privileges as Host Party personnel of comparable rank in their areas of assignment. Further, to the extent authorized by the laws and regulations of the government of the Host Party, Military Exchange Personnel and their authorized dependents shall be accorded on a reciprocal basis:

6.2.1. Exemption from any tax by the government of the Host Party upon income received from the government of the Parent Party.

6.2.2. Exemption from any customs and import duties or similar charges levied on items entering the country of the Host Party for their official or personal use, including their baggage, household effects, and private motor vehicles. The foregoing shall not in any way limit privileges set forth elsewhere in this Technical Arrangement, or other privileges granted by the laws and regulations of the government of the Host Party.

6.3. Military Exchange Personnel and their dependents shall be informed by the Host Organization about applicable laws, orders, regulations and customs and they shall be required to comply with them. Military Exchange Personnel and their dependents also shall be briefed by Host Organization personnel regarding their specific entitlements, privileges, and obligations upon their arrival in the country of the Host Organization.

6.4. Military Exchange Personnel may observe the holiday schedule of either the Parent Party or the Host Party as mutually agreed.

6.5. Military Exchange Personnel shall be assigned work under the guidance and supervision of a host supervisor. The host supervisor shall establish performance standards and observe the performance of Military Exchange Personnel to provide a basis for counseling and performance evaluations. Military Exchange Personnel shall have performance evaluations rendered by their Host Organization's supervisor. Such reports shall be forwarded by the Host Organization to the Parent Organization in accordance with Parent Organization requirements.

6.6. Reports which Military Exchange Personnel may be required to make by the Parent Party, or which they wish to make concerning their exchange duties, shall be submitted as follows:

6.6.1. United States Marine Corps Military Exchange Personnel will forward their reports in accordance with United States Marine Corps Order 5700.4.

6.6.2. Army of France Military Exchange Personnel will forward their reports through Defense Attaché Office, French Embassy, Washington, D.C.

6.7. Military Exchange Personnel committing an offense under the laws of the government of either the Parent Party or the Host Party may be withdrawn from this Exchange Program with a view toward further administrative or disciplinary action by the Parent Party. Disciplinary action, however, shall not be taken by the Host Party against Military Exchange Personnel and Military Exchange Personnel shall not exercise disciplinary powers over personnel of the Host Party. The Parties shall cooperate when legally possible in carrying out administrative or disciplinary action by the Parent Party against its Military Exchange Personnel. Jurisdictions other than the "Host Party" may assume jurisdiction in accordance with the NATO SOFA per paragraph 7.17.

6.8. Any medical and dental care that may be provided to Military Exchange Personnel and their dependents at the Host Party medical facilities, shall be subject to the requirements of the laws and regulations of the government of the Host Party, including reimbursement when required by such laws and regulations.

6.9. In no case shall Military Exchange Personnel be assigned to positions, which would require exercise of command or be assigned to other positions that would require them to exercise responsibilities that are reserved by law or regulation to an officer or employee of the Host Nation Government.

6.10. Military Exchange Personnel shall not be placed on duty or in positions in areas of political sensitivity where their presence would jeopardize the interests of the Parent Party, or where, in the normal course of their duty, they may become involved in activities, which may embarrass the Parent Party.

6.11. The Host Party shall not deploy Military Exchange Personnel in non-direct hostility situations, such as UN peacekeeping or multi-national operations, without Parent Party approval. Additionally, Military Exchange Personnel shall not be deployed to a third country as a member of an exercise contingent, or to participate in an exercise without Parent Party approval.

6.12. The Host Party shall not place Military Exchange Personnel in duty assignments in which direct hostilities with forces of third states are likely. Should a unit in which Military Exchange Personnel are assigned become involved in hostilities unexpectedly, Military Exchange Personnel assigned to the unit shall not be involved in the hostilities without authorization from

the Parent Party. Military Exchange Personnel approved by both the Parent Party and the Host Party for involvement in hostilities shall be given clear guidance on the Host Party's interpretation of laws of war, to include the rules of engagement.

6.13. Purchasing and patronage privileges at military commissaries, exchanges, theaters and clubs shall be extended to Military Exchange Personnel and their dependents on the same basis as equivalent personnel of the Host Party. This provision shall not, however, limit privileges set forth elsewhere in this Technical Arrangement or other privileges granted by the Host Party, at its discretion, with the consent of the Parent Party.

6.14. Military Exchange Personnel shall be granted leave and passes/liberty according to their entitlements under the regulations of the Parent Organization, subject to the approval of the appropriate authorities of the Host Organization.

6.15. Military Exchange Personnel shall be required to comply with the dress regulations of the Parent Organization. The order of dress for any occasion shall be that which most nearly conforms to the order for the particular unit of the Host Organization with which they are serving. Customs of the Host Organization shall be observed with respect to wearing of civilian clothes.

6.16. Consistent with the laws and regulations of the government of the Host Party, and upon conditions of reciprocity, the Host Organization shall provide, if available, housing and messing facilities for Military Exchange Personnel and their dependents on the same basis and priority as for its own personnel. Military Exchange Personnel shall pay messing and housing charges to the same extent as personnel of the Host Organization. At locations where facilities are not provided by the Host Organization for its own personnel, the Parent Organization shall make suitable arrangements for Military Exchange Personnel.

6.17. The U.S.-France Status of Forces Agreement pertaining to rights and privileges of military personnel while in the country of the Host Party shall apply to Military Exchange Personnel and their dependents, and, in the event of conflict, shall take precedence over this Technical Arrangement.

6.18. The International Issues Branch, Plans, Policies and Operations Department, Headquarters U.S. Marine Corps, Washington, D.C., will serve as the U.S. Marine Corps Personnel Exchange Program Administrator. The U.S. Marine Corps Military Exchange Personnel on exchange with Army of France will be under the administrative support of the Commander, Marine Forces Europe, Stuttgart, Germany.

6.19. France Military Exchange Personnel on exchange with the United States Marine Corps will be under the administrative control of the French Military Attaché, French Embassy, Washington, DC.

ARTICLE VII

CLAIMS

7.1. Claims against either Party or its personnel shall be dealt with in accordance with the terms of Article VIII of the NATO Status of Forces Agreement dated 19 June 1951.

7.2. Military Exchange Personnel and those dependents accompanying them, must obtain motor vehicle liability insurance coverage in accordance with applicable laws and regulations of the government of the Host Party, or its political subdivision, where they are located. In case of claims involving the use of private motor vehicles, the first recourse shall be against such insurance.

ARTICLE VIII

SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

Disputes arising under or relating to this Technical Arrangement shall be resolved only by consultation between the Parties.

ARTICLE IX

ENTRY INTO FORCE, AMENDMENT, DURATION AND TERMINATION

9.1. All activities of the Parties under this Technical Arrangement shall be carried out in accordance with the national laws and regulations of the Parties.

9.2. In the event of a conflict between an Article of this Technical Arrangement and any Annex to this Technical Arrangement, the Article shall control.

9.3. Except as otherwise provided, this Technical Arrangement may be amended by the mutual written consent of the Parties.

9.4. This Technical Arrangement may be terminated at any time upon the written consent of the Parties. In the event both Parties consent to terminate this Technical Arrangement, the Parties shall consult prior to the date of termination to ensure termination on the most economical and equitable terms.

9.5. Either Party may terminate this Technical Arrangement upon 180 days written notification to the other Party. Such notice shall be the subject of immediate consultation by the Parties to

decide upon the appropriate course of action. In the event of such termination, the following rules apply:

- 9.5.1.** The terminating Party shall continue participation, financial or otherwise, up to the effective date of termination.
 - 9.5.2.** Each Party shall pay the costs it incurs as a result of termination.
 - 9.5.3.** All information and rights therein received under the provisions of this Technical Arrangement prior to the termination shall be retained by the Parties, subject to the provisions of this Technical Arrangement.
- 9.6.** The respective rights and responsibilities of the Parties regarding Article V (Security) and Article VIII (Claims) shall continue notwithstanding termination or expiration of this Technical Arrangement.
- 9.7.** This Technical Arrangement, which consists of nine (9) Articles and two (2) or more Annexes, shall enter into force upon signature by both Parties and shall remain in force for ten (10) years. It may be extended by written agreement of the Parties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorized by their governments, have signed this Technical Arrangement.

DONE at Washington D.C., this 22nd day of July 2004, in the English and the French languages, both texts being equally authentic.

ON BEHALF OF
The Commandant, United States Marine Corps

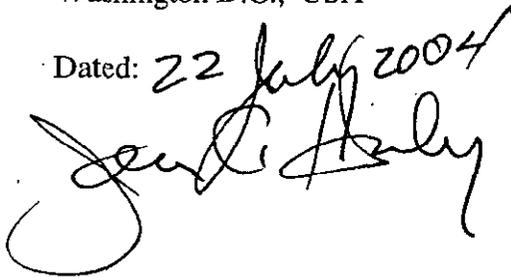
ON BEHALF OF
The Minister of Defense, The Republic of France

Jan C. Huly
Lieutenant General, USMC
Deputy Commandant for Plans,
Policies and Operations
Washington D.C., USA

Pascal Vinchon
Major General, French Air Force
Defense Attaché to the Embassy of France
Washington D.C., USA

Dated: 22 July 2004

Dated: 22 Juillet 2004



ANNEX A

CERTIFICATE OF CONDITIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

I understand and acknowledge that I have been accepted for assignment to (insert Name and location of organization to which assigned) pursuant to an Technical Arrangement between the United States Marine Corps and the Army of France. In connection with this assignment, I further understand, acknowledge, and certify that I shall comply with the following conditions and responsibilities:

1. The purpose of the assignment is to gain knowledge of the organization and management of Host Party military defense activities. There shall be no access to information except as required to perform the duties described in the position description of the position to which I am assigned, as determined by my designated supervisor.
2. I shall perform only functions, which are properly assigned to me as described in the position description (PD) for my assignment and shall not act in any capacity on behalf of my government or my Parent Party or Parent Organization.
3. All information to which I may have access during this assignment shall be treated as information provided to my government in confidence and shall not be further released or disclosed by me to any other person, firm, organization or government without the prior written authorization of the Host Party.
4. When dealing with individuals outside my immediate office of assignment on official matters, I shall inform such individuals that I am a foreign exchange person.
5. I have been briefed on, understand, and shall comply with all applicable security regulations of the Host Party and the Host Organization.
6. I will immediately report to my designated supervisor all attempts to obtain, without proper authorization, classified, restricted, proprietary, or controlled unclassified information to which I may have access as a result of this assignment.

(Signature)

(Typed Name)

(Rank/Title)

(Date)

ANNEX B

U.S. MARINE CORPS EXCHANGE POSITIONS

WITH ARMY OF FRANCE

No.	Position	Date Established	Tour Length	Grade	French Location	U.S. Location
1.	Assistant Operations Officer	Aug 04	2 yrs	Major		Camp Lejeune, North Carolina
2.	Staff Officer	Aug 04	2 yrs	Major	Nantes, France	