

Military Surface Deployment and Distribution Command

Customer and Carrier Advisory

July 17, 2025

CA-25-07-17/0041

Subject: Theater Advisory for Booking and Cargo Movement in Kuwait

Purpose: To advise the shipping community of the updated processing time for AK-302. This advisory supersedes previously published CA-22-05-25/0050.

Be Advised:

1. GENERAL INFORMATION:

- a. **U.S. Forces Kuwait Customs Clearance and Fees Exemption Form (AK-302):** SDDC will process AK-302s which are required for all import/export commercial shipments transiting through the commercial ports of Ash Shuwaikh (PN1) and Shuaiba (PN2). A minimum of **14 business days** are required to process the AK-302.
- b. **For Import Cargo:** Pre-Arrival notice should be submitted to the Port of Ash Shuaiba Deployment Distribution Support Battalion at least 72 hours prior to vessel arrival. Carrier-provided Commercial Bill of Lading (CBL) must be submitted immediately upon lift from the origin POE. The shipper must annotate cargo values on the Commercial Invoice and Packing List (CIPL) and submit the CIPL along with shipping documents to receive customs clearance. The completed AK-302 is attached to the Bill of Lading and taken to ASG-KU Host Nation office for processing.
- c. **For Export Cargo:** The Export Traffic Release (ETR) with cargo details, container number, POE, POD and vessel information must be provided to the customer as soon as the booking has been completed. The customer will coordinate with the USG AK-302 team who is responsible for customs clearance. The shipper must annotate cargo values on the Commercial Invoice and Packing List (CIPL) and submit the CIPL along with shipping documents to receive customs clearance. The approved AK-302 must be available to the commercial carriers prior to the booked vessel departure date from POE.
- d. Due to registration requirements for inland providers implemented by the Kuwait Port Authority at Shuaiba all cargo (sustainment) shipped via Kuwait's commercial terminals (PN1/Shuwaikh and PN2/Ash Shuaiba) **must be booked** on door terms until further notice.

Carrier questions or concerns regarding these new requirements should continue to be addressed to the 595th Ocean Cargo Clearance Authority (OCCA), SDDC HQs (Sealift Contract Management Branch) or TRANSCOM's

Acquisitions Directorate (TCAQ).

- e. In-Transit Visibility or RFID:** Each piece of cargo, to include ISO containers, cargo on flat-racks, and break-bulk cargo, must have an active RFID tag. Each tag must contain data that includes complete license plate information, assets-level data, and content-level data. This requirement is in conjunction with the USCENTCOM TPFDD Letter of Instruction (LOI) April 2017.
- f. Proper Packaging:** All containerized/flat-racked cargo must be secured IAW SDDC TEA Pamphlet 55-23. Breakbulk and flat-racked cargo must withstand prolonged exposure to sand, high winds, and excessive heat.
- g. Additional Booking Instructions:**
 - All bookings submitted will contain valid primary consignee and shipper points of contact (POC), name and organization, valid e- mail addresses, and valid commercial phone numbers in the ETRR assigned fields.
 - All import/export cargo booked through Ash Shuaiba military port (PN4) must be booked free in/out terms.
- h. Customs requirements for all import containerized cargo into Shuwaikh, Kuwait** (implemented in November 2018):
 - All containers under one BOL/AK-302 should be released on the same day. No containers under the same AK-302 will be carried forward for the next day of delivery. Customers need to manage reception capability ensuring all containers in one BOL are scheduled on same date of delivery.
 - The company name listed on the BOL, AK-302 and driver/pick up agent's Civil ID must all match. Carriers are required to provide a Civil ID to cross check against the BOL and AK-302. This is a security measure to ensure that an authorized carrier representative has been assigned to transport the cargo. There is **no** requirement for the carriers to sign customs paperwork for the cargo.
 - All cleared containers are required to be scanned prior to dispatch. There is no exemption. Carriers must ensure proper reefer capabilities are available during scanning in order to meet contractual obligation of maintaining the required temperature.

2. CONTAINERS DESTINED TO KUWAIT VIA KUWAIT PORTS:

- a. Government-Owned Containers/Flat-racks:** The use of Government owned ISO containers and flat-racks must be in accordance with the USCENTCOM Container Management LOI and the Defense Transportation Regulation, Part VI.

b. Delivery and Pick-up of Empties

- Carrier-Owned Empty Containers: Shippers must ensure that all carrier owned containers booked on door terms are returned to the carrier from the Empty Container Collection Point (ECCP) yard. Carrier-owned containers must be picked up by the carrier IAW the Universal Services Contract (USC).
- Government-Owned Empty Containers: Government-owned containers will remain at the ECCP yard. Customers are responsible to return the government-owned containers to the Central Receiving and Shipping Point (CRSP).

3. PORT OF DEBARKATION (POD):

a. PN1 – ASH SHUWAIKH (Commercial Port)

- HAZMAT Containerized Cargo: HAZMAT Class 2.1, 3, 4.1,4.2, 5.1, 6.1, and 6.2 containerized cargo shipped on commercial container vessel operated by a container carrier will be booked to door via Shuwaikh (PN1).

b. PN2 – ASH SHUAIBA (Commercial Port)

- HAZMAT Containerized Cargo: HAZMAT Class 2.1, 3, 4.1,4.2, 5.1, 6.1, and 6.2 containerized cargo cannot be shipped via Shuaiba (PN2).

***NOTE:** There is **no** free time at PN1/PN2 for **reefer** containers. Port storage is incurred on the day cargo is discharged from the vessel until it is dispatched/out-gated from the port. All cargo must be customs cleared **prior** to vessel arrival at the port and onward movement scheduled to “minimize” build- up of cargo collecting detention time.

c. PN4 – ASH SHUAIBA (Military Port)

- All unit cargo, rolling stock and break-bulk cargo that are shipped on commercial breakbulk vessels operated by RO/RO carriers will be booked to port (Free Terms) at the military port of Ash Shuaiba (PN4) to DoDAAC W90WV9. This allows for the facilitation of proper customs clearance and for onward movement to final destination/ultimate consignee.
- Onward movement to the final destination must be coordinated and completed by the consignee. The ultimate consignee will be annotated in the “Remarks to Booker” and “Delivery Information to Carrier” sections of the ETRR as Marked for DoDAAC XXXXXX, final destination with unit

and/or organization name in the clear.

- Consignees will contact their local Movement Control Team (MCT) to arrange for transportation from the port to final destination. Cargo is expected to clear the port no later than 10 days after arrival at the port.

MCT: usarmy.arifjan.asg-kuwait.list.cjoc-j-movement-control-team@army.mil

MCB: usarmy.arifjan.1-tsc.list.mcb1@army.mil

- All consignees will provide a copy of approved Transportation Movement Request (TMR) at:
usarmy.arifjan.sddc.list.ddsb-3@army.mil
DSN: 318-480-8144/8118/8153
- The unit's LNO will be notified upon receipt to submit a TMR for onward movement to final destination once the cargo is customs cleared. The LNO or consignee is responsible for submitting the TMR for onward movement to final destination.

c.1 EXCEPTIONS: Foreign Military Sales (FMS) cargo with final destination Kuwait will be booked based on the Delivery Term Code (DTC) provided by the FMS Case Manager.

d. FMS DTC-7 cargo (Door delivery): All cargo, including containers, rolling stock and break-bulk cargo that are shipped on commercial breakbulk vessels operated by RO/RO carriers can be booked on door terms via the military port of Ash Shuaiba (PN4) to its final destination.

e. FMS DTC-9 cargo (Port delivery): The consignee must contact 1ST TSC Mobility to arrange the TMR. If the FMS cargo is required to be stored at the military port, contact the Kuwait DET. Note that there are no port storage charges at Shuaiba (PN4).

4. WAIVER REQUESTS: Requests to waive any of the guidance provided in this advisory should be directed to the POCs listed below.

5. SDDC POCs:

595TH BDE:

usarmy.arifjan.sddc.list.595th-soc@army.mil

DSN: 318-480-0736/0463/0322/48

Kuwait BN:

usarmy.arifjan.sddc.list.ddsb-s3@army.mil

DSN: 318-480-8144/8118/8111/8147

595th BDE OCCA-SWA:

usarmy.bahrain.595-trans-bde.mbx.occaswa-qa@army.mil

usarmy.bahrain.595-trans-bde.mbx.occaswa-booking@army.mil

DSN: 318-439-6740/8231/6639

1ST TSC Mobility:

usarmy.arifjan.1-tsc.list.OCP-mobility-land@army.mil

DSN: 318-430-6401/2844

Expiration: N/A

Category: Ocean/Barge