

ISRAEL

1. General: The current customs procedures in Israel for clearing US Forces cargo are a combination of using Israel Ministry of Defense (MOD), US State Department (Diplomatic) and commercial clearances. The method of customs clearance depends on the type and consignee of the cargo. No customs clearance of any cargo may be accomplished prior to arrival of cargo in country and all clearances will be accomplished by the responsible activities.
2. Surface:
 - a. All cargo for the Multi-National Forces and Observers (MFO) in the Sinai Desert, Egypt is overland shipped through Israel. The MFO has an office in Israel, which handles custom clearances. Notifications on the arrival of MFO cargo via DOD air or sea are given to MFO Israel by the TO. Under an agreement between MFO and Israeli Customs, cargo shipments are basically treated as “in transit” over the border with Egypt. The MFO has resident Egyptian Customs Officers present at their North Camp who take care of Egyptian custom clearance procedures for cargo arriving for the MFO Sinai Desert.
 - b. The shipping companies move in transit and under bond cargo traveling to other adjacent countries transiting Israel air/water ports. This is normally done through the use of seavans. Customs clearance for all other types of overland cargo movements are handled by the TO as in transit in conjunction with the consignee and the customs requirements of the country involved (i.e., Jordan).
3. Air:
 - a. All cargo to/from DOD activities with facilities located within Israel and DOD cargo to/from testing and special trials under the SOFA are cleared by the TO, Operating Location OL-A, 16th Air Force Israel with the Israel MOD.
 - b. All shipments must be consigned to the TO, under no circumstances should the “American Embassy” be shown in the address elements of the BL. All shipments, including those shipments arriving by courier service (excluding documents), require customs clearance by the TO.
 - c. Cargo to/from the Israel MOD owned contractors and Israel FMS shipments are customs cleared by the MOD. The TO will conduct liaison with the MOD on all shipments through the DOD for such activities.
 - d. The TO notifies and liaisons on custom clearances on all cargo moving to/from within the DTS for all non-MOD contractors. Cargo that arrives for contractors in Israel normally consists of US Government Furnished Material/Equipment. Israeli Customs will only permit the contractor, through a freight forwarder, to clear the shipment through customs. This is normally accomplished under a Bond or Bank Guarantee for the total value of the cargo shipment. The contractor is responsible for proving to customs that the cargo items were subsequently re-exported out of Israel. The contractor becomes liable to Israeli Customs for the duty and Value Added Tax on the value of any cargo items lost or stolen while in the contractor’s custody. Contractors are responsible for obtaining any required Government of Israel Export License for military cargo that is being exported. Contractors are required to notify customs in advance of all details of the contract(s) they hold and include the identification and value of items to be exported. A type of bank deposit/undertaking is also lodged with Israeli Customs. On shipments made through the DTS, contractors are required to clear their cargo through customs utilizing their own freight forwarder or provide all of the necessary documents, invoices, and permits to the TO’s freight forwarder for customs clearance.

- e. Cargo arriving/departing on joint exercises at MOD/Israel Defense Forces (IDF) facilities are customs cleared, if required, by the Israel MOD/IDF in conjunction with Israel Custom Laws. Cargo arriving/departing the US Navy's 6th Fleet and/or visiting US Naval vessels that require cargo movement to/from aircraft is treated as in-transit cargo under the bond of the 6th Fleet's husbanding agent.
4. Sea: Customs processing of ocean vessel shipments are handled exactly the same as air shipments.
5. Personal Property. See the PPCIG at <https://tops.ppcigweb.sddc.army.mil/ppcig/menu/home/warning.do>. Select Query CG tab, select Country Instructions tab, at the Country drop down box under Custom Selection, select Israel, submit. Click on the detail icon on the upper right hand side to review shipping requirements.