

FY-08-01 Contacts: Drew Wade/Debra Satkowiak (202) 648-8500 For Immediate Release Dec. 26, 2007

ATF ANNOUNCES FINAL RULE ON INTERNATIONAL TRAFFIC IN ARMS REGULATIONS

WASHINGTON – The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) today announced a final rule that conforms the regulations in 27 CFR Part 447 to the revised International Traffic in Arms Regulations.

The final rule amends the list of countries from which the importation of defense articles into the United States is prohibited by adding Afghanistan and removing South Africa and some of the states comprising the former Soviet Union (Armenia, Azerbaijan and Tajikistan). The rule also removes the arms embargo against the countries of Serbia and Montenegro. It also clarifies an outdated reference in the regulations to Zaire, currently known as the "Democratic Republic of the Congo."

The final rule appears in today's issue of the Federal Register.

ATF is a principal law enforcement agency within the U.S. Department of Justice dedicated to preventing terrorism, reducing violent crime and protecting our nation. The men and women of ATF perform the dual responsibilities of enforcing federal criminal laws and regulating the firearms and explosives industries.

The rule can be found at <u>http://www.atf.gov/firearms/rules/gennotices.htm</u>. More information on ATF and its programs and resources is at <u>www.atf.gov</u>.

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