



DCS GUIDE
SA-342M/L GAZELLE

By Chuck

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The *Aérospatiale Gazelle* is a French five-seat helicopter, commonly used for light transport, scouting and light attack duties. The SA-342M variant offered to us by Polychop Simulations is an anti-armor version of this nimble helicopter. First designed in 1967 by Sud Aviation (which later became Aérospatiale, then Eurocopter, and now Airbus Helicopters as of 2014), the Gazelle was manufactured in France and in the United Kingdom through a joint production agreement with Westland Aircraft.



Introduced to service in 1973, the Gazelle participated in numerous conflicts around the world including the Lebanon War in 1982, the Rwandan Civil War in the 1990s, and in the Gulf War in 1991. It was operated by France, the United Kingdom, China, Iraq, Syria, Kuwait, Ecuador, Yugoslavia, Lebanon, Morocco, Rwanda and Egypt. In French service, the SA-342 was supplemented as an attack helicopter by the larger Eurocopter Tigre, but remained primarily used for scouting missions. Operating in desert theatres required the installation of additional equipment like sand filters.



This agile chopper is challenging to fly since it requires very delicate inputs. The slightest wrong move can have dramatic consequences. Polychop simulated the SAS (Stability Augmentation System) and its effects on flight, meaning that you will often have the impression of “fighting” against the helicopter during flight. This is to be expected and makes precision flying quite challenging for the uninitiated. Make no mistake: the Gazelle might seem like a simple machine at first sight, but mastering it is a daunting task that is overall very rewarding in the end.

Before you think of trying to fly this helicopter, ask yourself the following question: are you ready to go on some of the most dangerous missions with limited means? The SA-342 will test you to your limits and beyond. Give it a shot and find out for yourself.





Note: Make sure you have “WAYPOINTS PRE-LOAD” ticked and “EASIER CONTROLS” unticked in your SPECIAL tab in the options. Waypoint pre-load means that you will not have to enter manually the coordinates of each waypoint each time you fly (which without doubt a real pain to do).

OPTIONS

SYSTEM CONTROLS GAMEPLAY MISC. AUDIO **SPECIAL** VR

SA342 Gazelle

COCKPIT VIBRATION 100

CONTROLS DISPLAY
Left Down Corner

Customized Cockpit

SA342M Default

SA342L Default

SA342Mistral Default

SA342Minigun Default

FFB PITCH CURVE 0

FFB ROLL CURVE 0

EASIER CONTROLS

ENGINE BREAK

WAYPOINTS PRE-LOAD

Rudder Trimmer

SECOND JOYSTICK FOR CAMERA

CANCEL OK

OPTIONS

SYSTEM **CONTROLS** GAMEPLAY MISC. AUDIO SPECIAL VR

SA342 Axis Commands Reset category to default Clear category Save profile as Load profile

Action	Category	Keyboard	Throttle - HOTAS W...	Joystick - HOTAS Wa...	Saitek Pro Flight Co...
Absolute Camera Horizontal View					
Absolute Camera Vertical View					
Absolute Horizontal Shift Camera View					
Absolute Longitude Shift Camera View					
Absolute Roll Shift Camera View					
Absolute Vertical Shift Camera View					
Camera Horizontal View					
Camera Vertical View					
Camera Zoom View					
Console lights Intensity	Main Panel				
Flight Control Collective	Controls		JOY_Z		
Flight Control Cyclic Pitch	Controls			JOY_Y	
Flight Control Cyclic Roll	Controls			JOY_X	
Flight Control Rudder	Controls				JOY_RZ
Formation Lights	Roof Console				
Fuel Flow Lever	Roof Console				
Gain Button	ADF Radio				
Off/Brightness	NADIR				
Panels internal lights Intensity	Main Panel				
Pilot Intercom VHF AM Button Radio Selection/Volume Rotator	Pilot Intercom				
Pilot Intercom VHF AM Button Radio Selection/Volume Rotator	Pilot Intercom				
Roof Lamp	Roof Console				
Rotor Brake lever	Roof Console				
RWR Audio	RWR				

Modifiers Add Clear Default **Axis Assign** Axis Tune FF Tune Make HTML

CANCEL OK

TO ASSIGN AXIS, CLICK ON AXIS ASSIGN. YOU CAN ALSO SELECT "AXIS COMMANDS" IN THE UPPER SCROLLING MENU.

TO MODIFY CURVES AND SENSITIVITIES OF AXES, CLICK ON THE AXIS YOU WANT TO MODIFY AND THEN CLICK AXIS TUNE

CONTROLS SETUP

BIND THE FOLLOWING AXES:

- CYCLIC PITCH (DEADZONE AT 0, SATURATION X AT 100, SATURATION Y AT 40, CURVATURE AT 0)
- CYCLIC ROLL (DEADZONE AT 0, SATURATION X AT 100, SATURATION Y AT 25, CURVATURE AT 0)
- RUDDER/ANTI-TORQUE (DEADZONE AT 0, SATURATION X AT 100, SATURATION Y AT 60, CURVATURE AT 15)
- COLLECTIVE (DEADZONE AT 0, SATURATION X AT 100, SATURATION Y AT 100, CURVATURE AT -15)

NOTES ABOUT CONTROLS

If you are more familiar with airplanes than with helicopters, you might not be quite familiar with a “collective” and a “cyclic”. In a prop aircraft, you generally set your engine to a given RPM by changing the propeller’s pitch, and you throttle up and down to change your thrust. Anti-torque pedals are used to change the orientation of your vertical stab.

In a helicopter, it’s the opposite. You set your throttle to a given setting, and you change your thrust with your **collective**, which changes the pitch of your rotor/propeller’s blades. Anti-torque pedals are used to modify your tail rotor’s propeller pitch: the amount of lateral thrust generated by your rotor is in direct relationship with the horizontal/lateral orientation of your helicopter. The **cyclic**, on the other hand, is used just like a regular stick on a plane. The cyclic modifies the orientation of swashplates, to which are attached push rods that define the orientation of the rotor.

In very simple terms, you could say that the collective is used like a throttle on a plane, the throttle is used like a RPM setter on a plane, and the cyclic is used like a joystick on a plane.

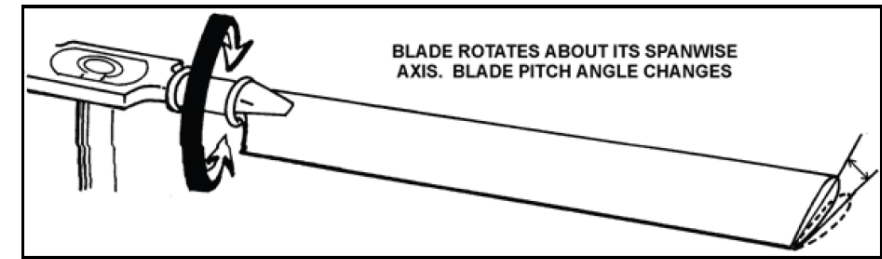


Figure 1-17. Feathering





Infrared Deflector
(Suppresses IR signature)

Sand Filter

Viviane Camera System

Copilot
(Commander)
Press 2 to Select

Pilot
Press 1 to Select

Matra Flare Dispenser System

HOT3 Missile

PILOT SEAT

NOTE: USE "RSHIFT+P" TO TURN PILOT BODY ON OR OFF.

Collective

Anti-Torque Pedals

Cyclic





FOR NIGHT OPERATIONS:
NIGHT VISION GOGGLES CONTROLS
ON/OFF: RSHIFT + H
BRIGHTNESS + : RCTRL + RSHIFT + H
BRIGHTNESS - : RALT + RSHIFT + H

PILOT SEAT

DOOR
OPEN/CLOSE = RCTRL+C



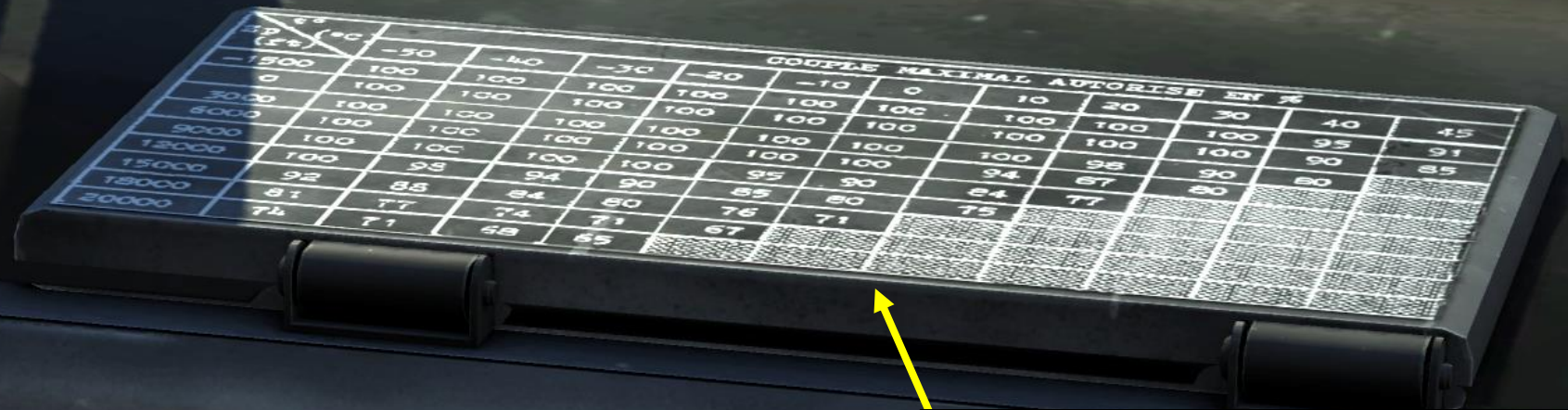
PILOT SEAT



LIMIT	SPEED		RADIO FREQ	
	PRESSURE ALTITUDE (m)	VNE (km/h)		
	0	310		
	500	297		
	1000	285		
	1500	272		
	2000	260		
	2500	247		
	3000	235		
	3500	222		
	4000	210		
	4500	197		
	5000	185		
	5500	172		
	6000	160		
T. A. TEMP CORRECTION				
PARTICULAR TO ENGINE				
			WEIGHT:	
			COFG:	
			MOMENT:	
			DATE:	
			GTM:	

VNE Chart ("Not to exceed" Airspeed in function of altitude)

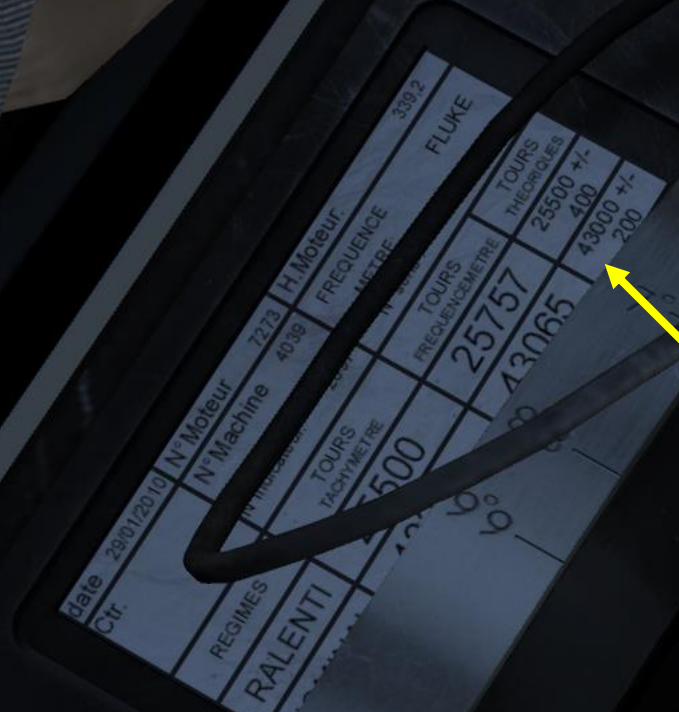
PILOT SEAT



Couple Maximal Autorisé (Max Allowable Torque) Chart

		MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE TORQUE (%)										
ft	\ deg C	-50	-40	-30	-20	-10	0	10	20	30	40	45
-1500		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	95	91
0		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	90	85
3000		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	98	90	80	X
6000		100	100	100	100	100	100	94	87	80	X	X
9000		100	100	100	100	95	90	84	77	X	X	X
12000		100	98	94	90	85	80	75	X	X	X	X
15000		92	88	84	80	76	71	X	X	X	X	X
18000		81	77	74	71	67	X	X	X	X	X	X
20000		74	71	68	65	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

PILOT SEAT



REGIMES	N° Machine	I2Z73	H. Moteur.	TOURS FREQUENCE METRE	TOURS FREQUENCE METRE	TOURS THEORIQUES
RALENTI		4038		25757	43065	25500 +/- 400
				500		43000 +/- 200

Engine Specifications chart

PILOT SEAT



External Temperature Indicator

PILOT SEAT

Warning Panel

Standby Artificial Horizon

Vertical Velocity Indicator (x100 m/min)

Main Artificial Horizon

Main Artificial Horizon Caging Knob

Barometric Altimeter (m)
Short Needle: 1000 m
Long Needle: 100 m

Alarm Lamp
Illuminates if fuel flow lever is not pushed completely full forward, if turbine RPM is above 44300, if turbine is not rotating of if the turbine is damaged

Barometric Pressure Setter

Indicated Airspeed Indicator (km/h)

VNE (Not to Exceed Speed)

NADIR (ADF) Indicator

General Test Button

Torque Indicator (%)

Side Slip Indicator

Torque Test Button

Main Artificial Horizon Source Selector
ART: Artificial
VIS: *Viseur* = Camera Target Point
VHF: ADF Emitter
DOP: NADIR Waypoint

Standby Artificial Horizon Caging Knob

Barometric Pressure (x100 Pa)

Radar Altimeter Altitude Warning Lamp

Radar Altimeter (m)

Radar Altimeter Power Knob
M = *Marche* = Power ON
A = *Arrêt* = OFF

Pilot Wiper (*Essuie-Glaces*) Switch
L = *Lent* = Slow (UP)
A = *Arrêt* = OFF (MIDDLE)
R = *Rapide* = Fast (DOWN)

Température Huile Moteur = Oil Temperature (deg C)

Quantité Combustible = Fuel Quantity Indicator (x10 L)

Voltmeter (V)

PILOT SEAT

Hydraulic Test Switch
M = *Marche* = ON (UP)
A = *Arrêt* = OFF (DOWN)

Pitot Heat Switch
M = *Marche* = ON (UP)
A = *Arrêt* = OFF (DOWN)

Trim Actuator Switch
M = *Marche* = ON (UP)
A = *Arrêt* = OFF (DOWN)

Voltmeter Test Button

Turbine START (*Démarrage*) Lamp

Turbine IDLE (*Ralentissement*) Lamp

Engine Blocked Lamp

Alternator Switch
M = *Marche* = ON (UP)
A = *Arrêt* = OFF (DOWN)

Generator Switch
M = *Marche* = ON (UP)
A = *Arrêt* = OFF (DOWN)

Battery Switch
M = *Marche* = ON (UP)
A = *Arrêt* = OFF (DOWN)

Master Arm (*Armement*) Switch
M = *Marche* = ON (UP)
A = *Arrêt* = OFF (DOWN)

Copilot Wiper (*Essuie-Glaces*) Switch
L = *Lent* = Slow (UP)
A = *Arrêt* = OFF (MIDDLE)
R = *Rapide* = Fast (DOWN)

Switch Not Simulated

PILOT SEAT

Auxiliary/Reserve Fuel Tank Lamp

Convoy Fuel Tank Lamp
(Not Simulated)

Sand Filter Indicator
(Illuminated = ON)

Sand Filter Power Switch
M = *Marche* = ON (UP)
A = *Arrêt* = OFF (DOWN)

Auxiliary/Reserve Fuel Tank Switch
M = *Marche* = ON (UP)
A = *Arrêt* = OFF (DOWN)

Magnetic Brake (*Débrayage des Efforts* –
Freins Magnétiques) Switch
M = *Marche* = ON (UP)
A = *Arrêt* = OFF (DOWN)

T4 (Engine Power Turbine
Temperature) Indicator (x100 deg C)

Generator Rearm button
(not simulated)

Alternator Rearm button
(not simulated)

Convoy Fuel Tank Switch (not simulated)

Starter/Ventilation
(*Démarrreur*) Switch
M = *Marche* = ON (UP)
A = *Arrêt* = OFF (MIDDLE)
VENT = Ventilation (DOWN)

Fuel Pump (*Pompe*) Switch
M = *Marche* = ON (UP)
A = *Arrêt* = OFF (DOWN)

Inner Scale: Rotor RPM x 100
Outer Scale: Turbine RPM x 1000

Clock and Chronometer

7.47.8
2.59.1

SA-342M/L
GAZELLE

PART 3 - COCKPIT & GAUGES

PILOT SEAT



DEM.



Autopilot Roll correction Monitor



Autopilot Yaw correction Monitor

Autopilot Pitch Correction Monitor



Autopilot Switch
UP = ON / DOWN = OFF

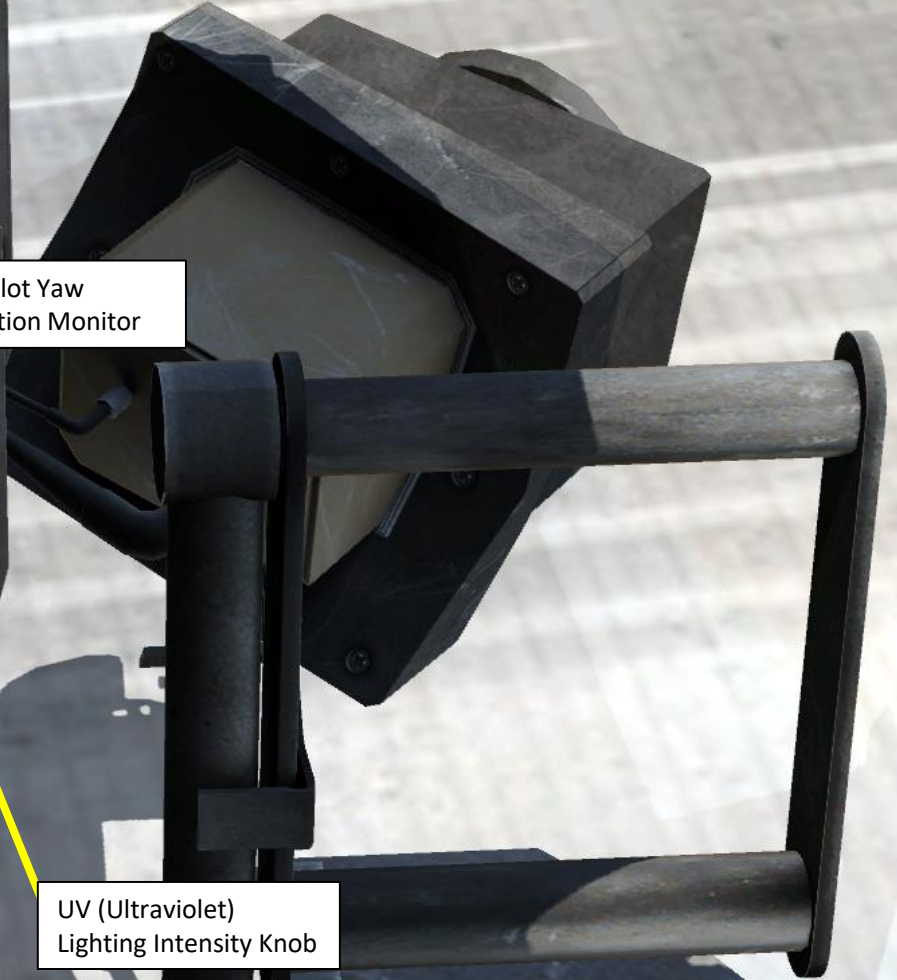
Autopilot Pitch Axis Switch
UP = ON / DOWN = OFF

Autopilot Roll Axis Switch
UP = ON / DOWN = OFF

Autopilot Yaw Axis Switch
UP = ON / DOWN = OFF

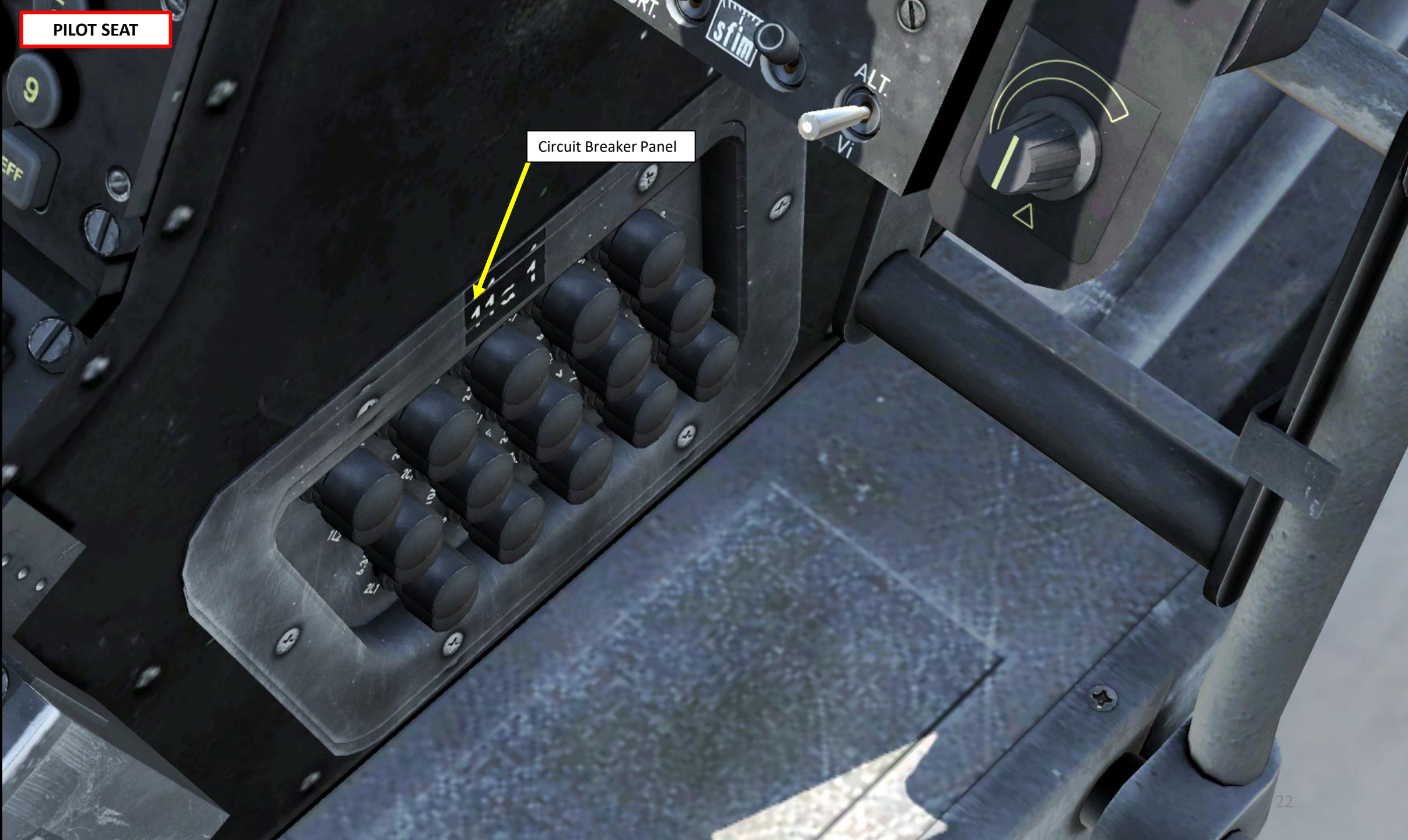
Autopilot Holding Mode Switch
Alt = **Altitude** (UP)
Vit = **Vitesse** = Speed (DOWN)

UV (Ultraviolet)
Lighting Intensity Knob



PILOT SEAT

Circuit Breaker Panel



PILOT SEAT

DAK AUDIO MARQUEUR CROC
PAGE ON OFF

PITOT		
H. MOT	H. BTP.	H. PAL
GENE	ALTER.	BAT.
P. A.	NAV.	COMB.
B. P. HY.	LIM.	FILT.

TEST

3 8
0
3 5
hm/mn

3
2
1
2
3

Gyro Mode Switch
CM = *Compas Magnétique* = Magnetic Compass Mode
A = *Arrêt* = OFF
GM = Gyro-Magnetic Mode
D = *Droite* = Right Mode (not simulated)
G = *Gauche* = Left Mode (not simulated)

Navigation Lights Mode (*Feux de Position*) Switch
CLI = Clignotant = Blinking (UP)
OFF (MIDDLE)
FIX = *Fixe* = Steady (DOWN)

Anti-collision Lights Intensity Control Knob

Anti-collision Lights Mode Switch
NOR = Normal (UP)
A = *Arrêt* = OFF (MIDDLE)
ATT = *Atténué* = Attenuated (DOWN)

Main Dashboard (*Planche de Bord*)
Lighting Intensity Control Knob

Panels Lighting Switch
M = *Marche* = ON (UP)
A = *Arrêt* = OFF (DOWN)

Gyro Flag

Ampli Flag

Gyro Synchronization Monitor

Left / Right Gyro Switch
(not simulated)

Center Console (*Pupitre*) Lighting
Intensity Control Knob



PILOT SEAT

RWR Brightness Control Knob

RWR Maintenance Page Button
(not simulated)

RWR Audio Volume Control Knob

TRIM Advisory Lamp

BPP (Brake Pedal
Position) Advisory Lamp

Autopilot TEST Lamp

BRT

DRAX 33 RWR (Radar Warning Receiver)

RWR Marker Button (not simulated)

RWR Mode switch
CROC (UP) – Memorizes radar locations spotted during flight- Not Simulated
ON (MIDDLE)
OFF (DOWN)

Autopilot Test Switch Safety Cover

Autopilot Test Switch
M = *Marche* = Test ON (UP)
A = *Arrêt* = Test OFF (DOWN)

PILOT SEAT

Intercom VHF Volume Control

Intercom UHF Volume Control

Intercom FM1 Volume Control

Intercom FM1 Volume Control

ENT = Enter

Waypoint Number

DES = Destination

NADIR Parameter Selector
Vent = Wind
CM DEC = Magnetic Heading – Declination
VS DER = Vitesse Sol = Ground Speed – Deviation
Temps Cap = Calculated Time – Heading
PP = Position Pr sente = Current Position
BUT = Waypoint

X UTM Coordinates (northing)

Y UTM coordinates (easting)

AUX = Auxiliary

IC = Indication Carte = Map Indicator

NADIR Mode Selector
Arr t = OFF
Veille = Standby
Terre = Ground
Mer = Sea
Anemom tre = Airspeed Sensor
Test Sol = Ground Test

POL = Polar

GEO UTM = Geographic UTM Coordinates

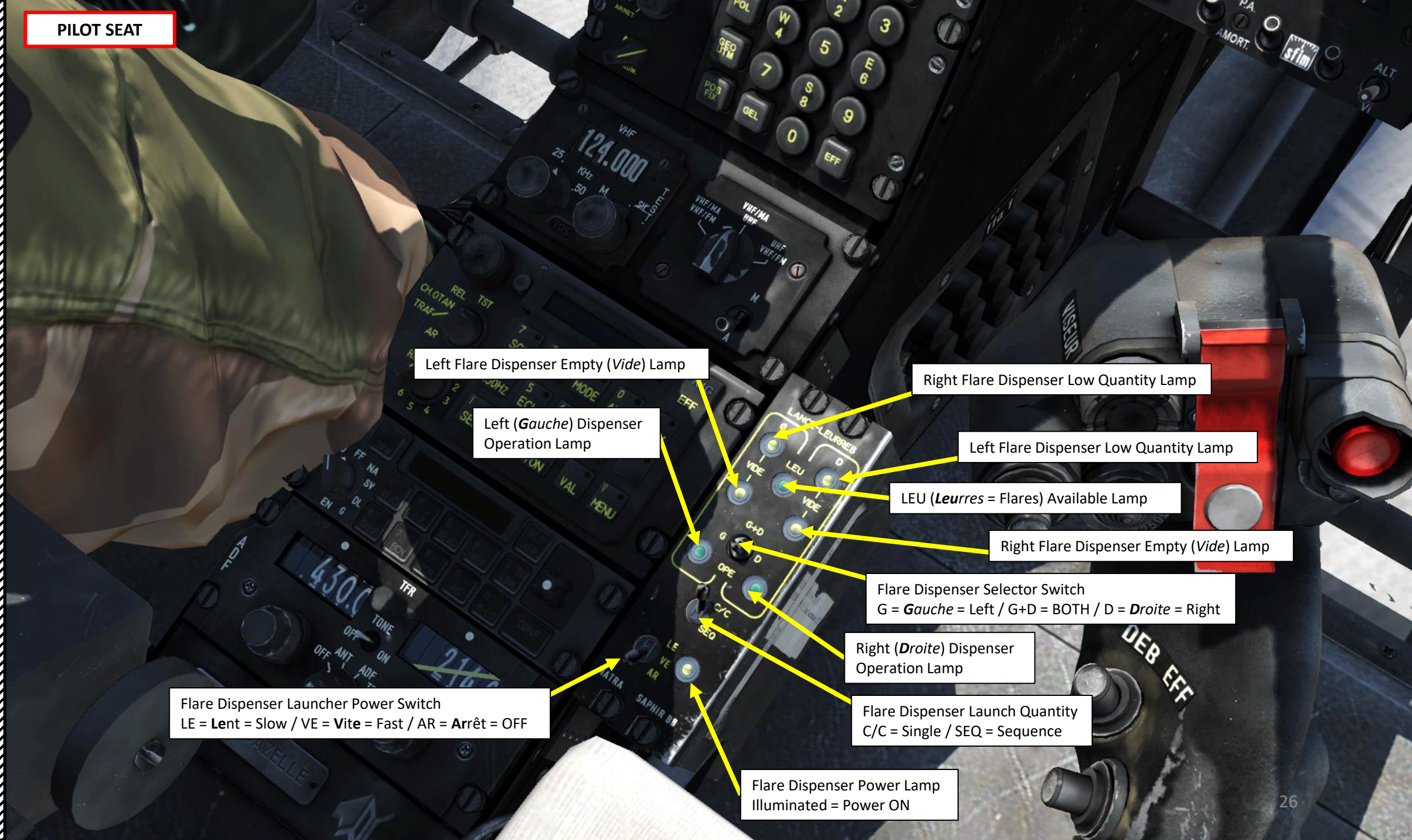
NADIR Brightness Control Knob

POS FIX = Store Position

EFF = Effacer = Delete

GEL = Freeze

PILOT SEAT



Left Flare Dispenser Empty (*Vide*) Lamp

Left (*Gauche*) Dispenser Operation Lamp

Right Flare Dispenser Low Quantity Lamp

Left Flare Dispenser Low Quantity Lamp

LEU (*Leurres* = Flares) Available Lamp

Right Flare Dispenser Empty (*Vide*) Lamp

Flare Dispenser Selector Switch
G = *Gauche* = Left / G+D = BOTH / D = *Droite* = Right

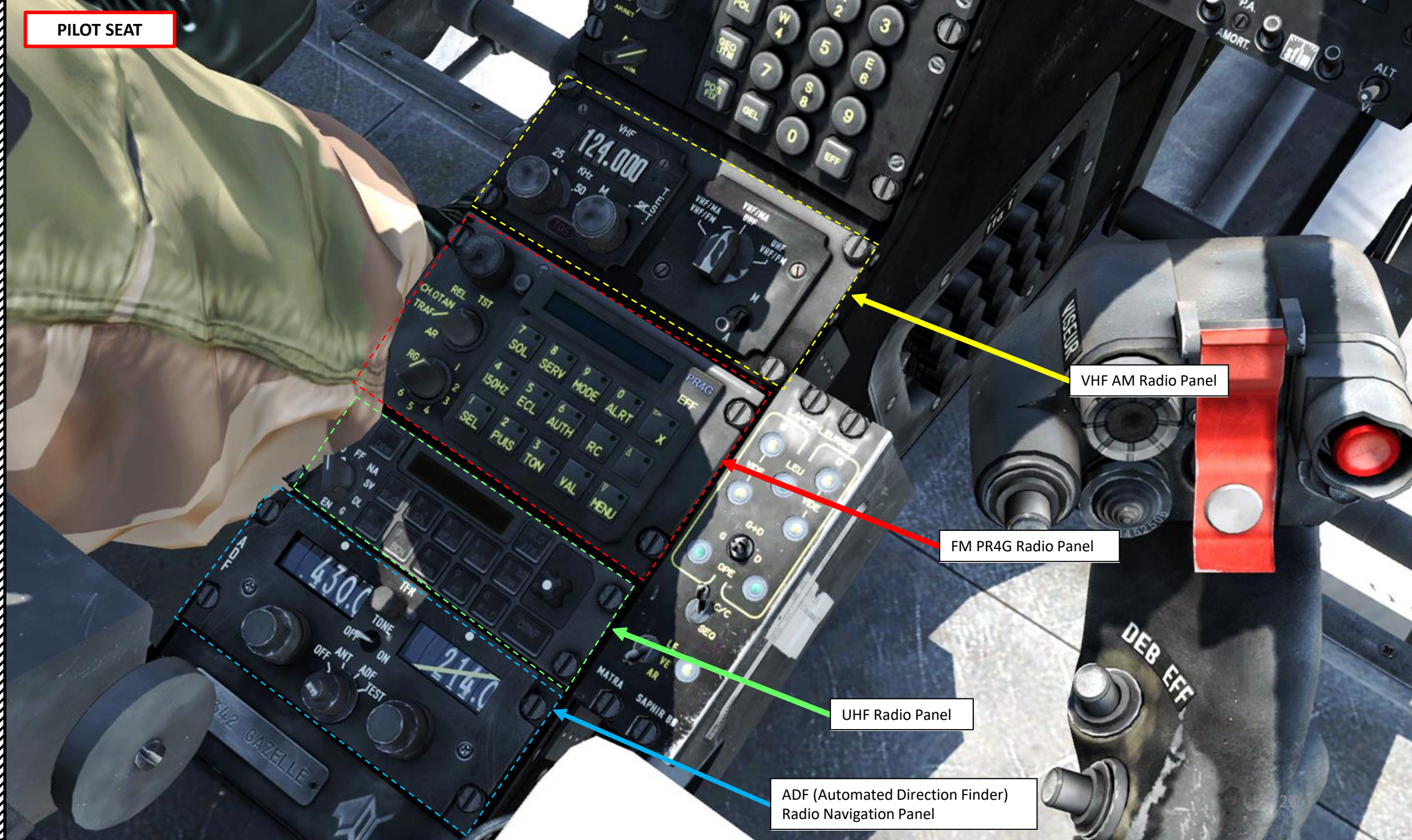
Right (*Droite*) Dispenser Operation Lamp

Flare Dispenser Launch Quantity
C/C = Single / SEQ = Sequence

Flare Dispenser Launcher Power Switch
LE = *Lent* = Slow / VE = *Vite* = Fast / AR = *Arrêt* = OFF

Flare Dispenser Power Lamp
Illuminated = Power ON

PILOT SEAT



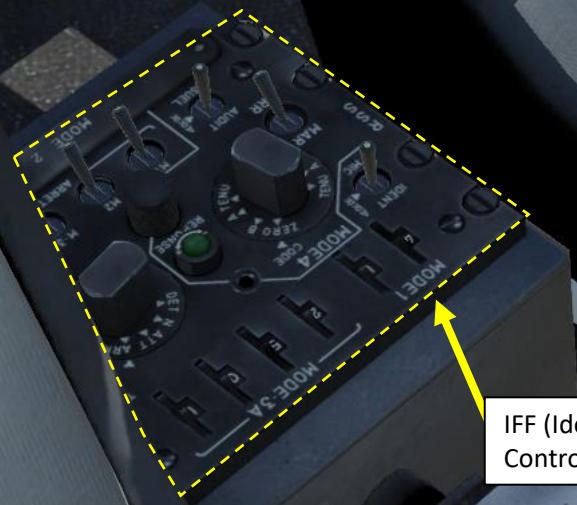
VHF AM Radio Panel

FM PR4G Radio Panel

UHF Radio Panel

ADF (Automated Direction Finder)
Radio Navigation Panel

PILOT SEAT



IFF (Identify-Friend-or-Foe)
Control Panel

PILOT SEAT

7.8
9.1

UX I.C.
N 3
2
5 E 6
S 9
8
0 EFF

VHF/MA UHF
UHF VHF/FM
M
A

PR4G
EFF
0 ALRT X
DC

LANCE-LEURRES

G	LEU	D
VIDE		VIDE
G+D		D

P T R
C. T
PA AMORT. sfim ALT

Radio Button
(Trigger in front)

Camera Slaved Button

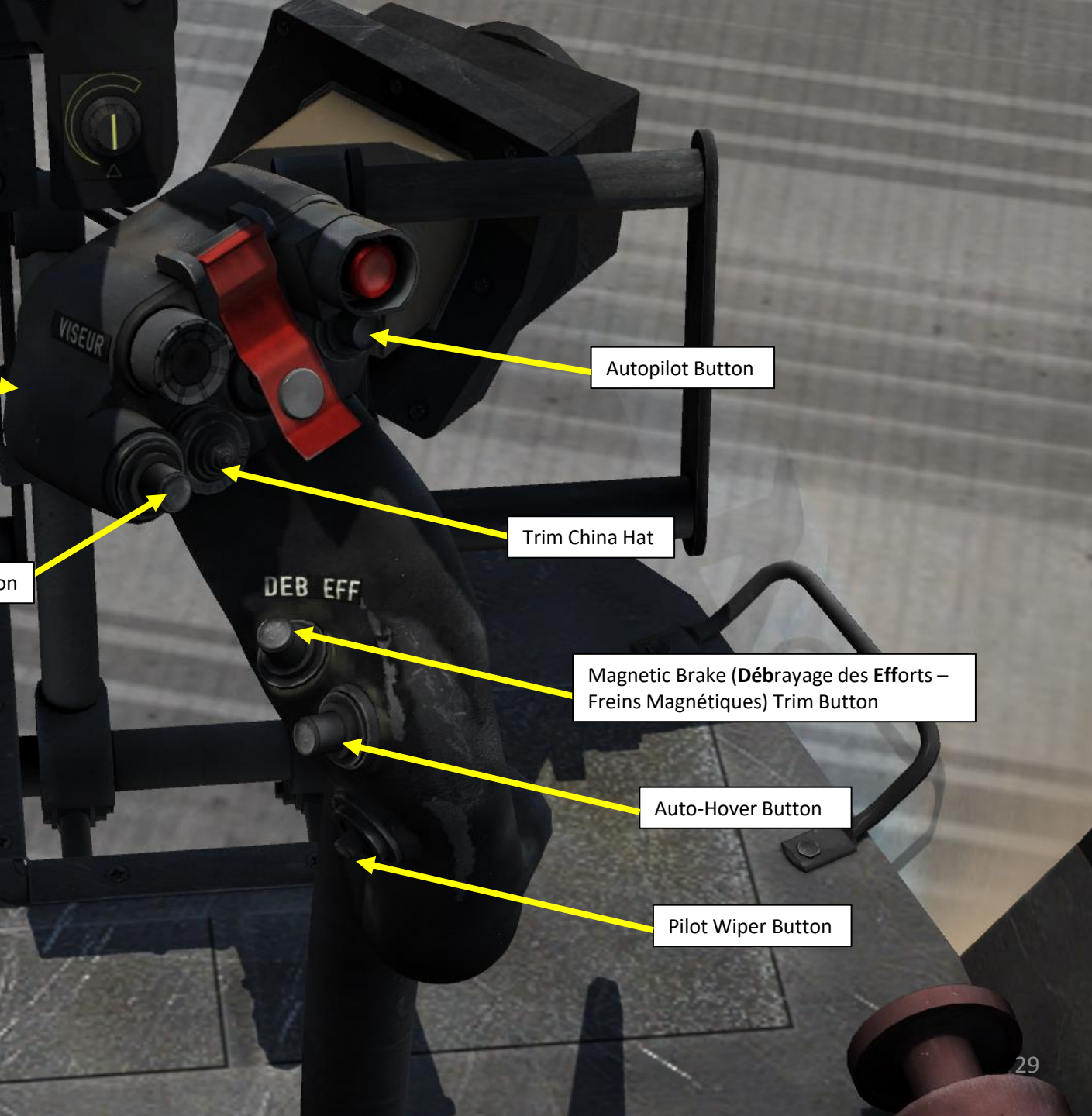
Autopilot Button

Trim China Hat

Magnetic Brake (Débrayage des Efforts – Freins Magnétiques) Trim Button

Auto-Hover Button

Pilot Wiper Button



PILOT SEAT

Landing Light Toggle
Rentré = Retracted
Sorti = Extended

Flare Dispenser Button
and Cover Switch

Servo Switch
M = *Marche* = ON
A = *Arrêt* = OFF

Landing Light Switch
Phare = ON
Vario = Variable
Arrêt = OFF

PILOT SEAT

Cabin Heating
(*Chauffage*) Knob
(not functional)

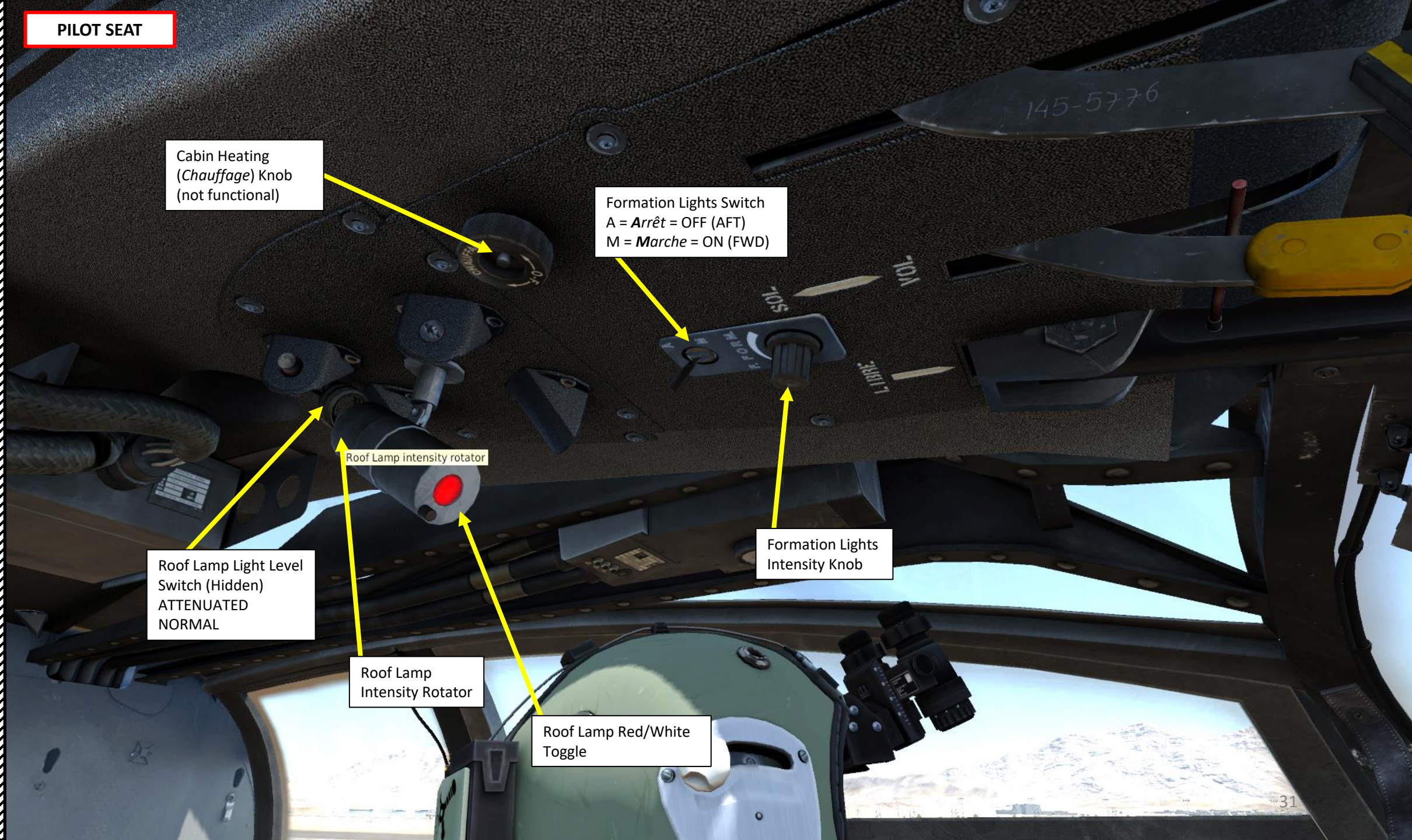
Formation Lights Switch
A = *Arrêt* = OFF (AFT)
M = *Marche* = ON (FWD)

Roof Lamp Light Level
Switch (Hidden)
ATTENUATED
NORMAL

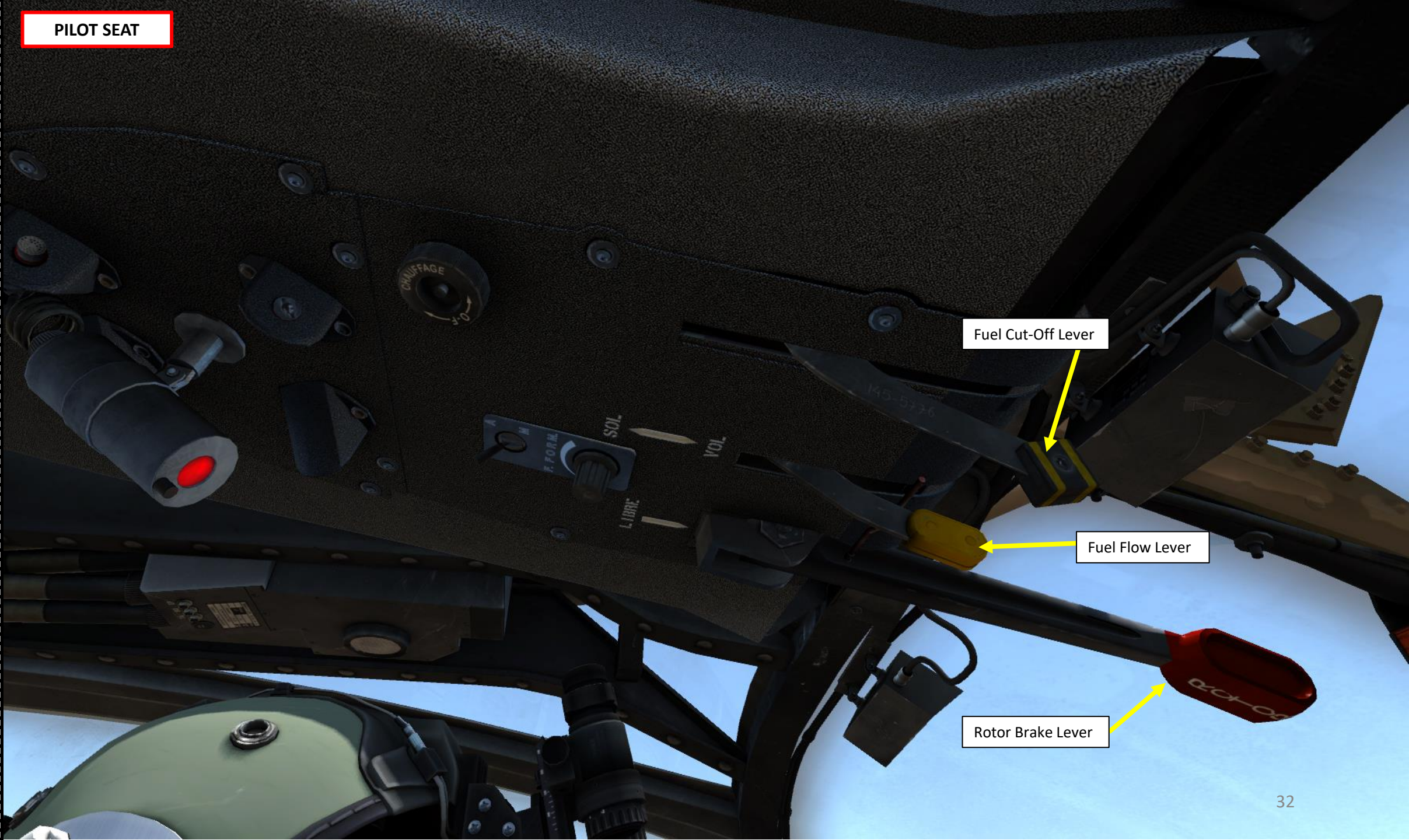
Roof Lamp
Intensity Rotator

Roof Lamp Red/White
Toggle

Formation Lights
Intensity Knob



PILOT SEAT



Fuel Cut-Off Lever

Fuel Flow Lever

Rotor Brake Lever

PILOT SEAT



Standby Magnetic Compass



Yaw String (or Slip String)
Indicates a slip or skid
during flight



PILOT SEAT

COMPAS
M 3548 DATE 02/10

CM	CC
000	0
045	+1
090	0
135	-3
180	-2
225	-1
270	0
315	-3

Compass Heading Correction Sheet

CM = Cap Magnétique Magnetic Heading	CC = Cap Compas Compass Heading
0	0
045	+1
090	0
135	-3
180	-2
225	-1
270	0
315	-3

Compass Heading Correction Sheet
CM = *Cap Magnétique* = Magnetic Heading
CC = *Cap Compas* = Compass Heading

PILOT SEAT



Additional Fuel Quantity Indicator (70 kg)

COPILOT SEAT

Collective

Cyclic



COPILOT SEAT

Lasing Button and Cover Switch

Symbology Brightness (Vertical Axis)
Image Brightness (Horizontal Axis)

Camera Contrast

Copilot Video Stick

Missile Launch Button and Cover Switch

Symbology Inverse Toggle

Image Inverse Toggle

COPILOT SEAT



TV Power Switch
UP = ON
DOWN = OFF

TV Contrast Knob

TV Power Lamp
Illuminated = ON

TV Brightness Knob

TV Display



COPILOT SEAT

Bon (Good) Lamp
Station Selector set to an armed Missile

Mauvais (Bad) Lamp
Station Selector set to Safety

Missile Ready (*Missile Prêt*)
Lamp

Missile Launch
Authorized (*Tir Autorisé*) Lamp

Failure (*Défaut*) Lamp

Day Mode Lamp

HOT3 Missile Panel
Brightness Control Knob

Test I Mode
Lamp

HOT3 Station Selector Knob
0 = Safety Position
1 / 2 / 3 / 4 = Missile Stations

HOT3 Missile Launch Mode Selector
TEST I
TEST II
Arrêt = OFF
Jour = Day
Nuit = Night

Test II Mode
Lamp

Night Mode
Lamp



COPILOT SEAT



BVC Power Knob
A = *Arrêt* = OFF
ALI = *Alimentation* = Powered
M = *Marche* = ON

BCV IR Power Knob
A = *Arrêt* = OFF
V = *Veille* = Standby
M = *Marche* = ON

Camera Mode Selector
A = *Arrêt* = OFF
C = *Convoyage* = Travel
V = *Veille* = Standby
PIL = *Pilote* = Manned
ASS = *Asservi* = Locked

Camera Centering Toggle Switch
UP = Centered
DOWN = Reset

BCV: *Boîtier de Commande Vidéo*
(Video Command Box)

VDO/VTH Toggle switch
VDO: *Vue Directe Optique* = Direct Sight Vision
VTH: *Voie Thermie* = Thermal Vision

Camera Zoom Knob

Camera Control Stick

PRE-FLIGHT: WHAT IS IT, AND WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

Choosing your payload carefully is a critical task for all Gazelle crews. If you takeoff with a full fuel load and a full set of four HOT3 missiles, you will be overweight and are quite likely to damage your engine and/or exceed torque safety limits during flight. Make sure you check if your fuel load + your weapon load does not exceed your maximum takeoff weight, as shown in the picture below.

As a general rule of thumb, I suggest that you take 50 % fuel if you intend to carry 4 TOW missiles.

The screenshot displays the DCS Mission Editor interface for a SA-342M/L Gazelle helicopter. The main window shows a top-down view of the helicopter with numbered callouts (1-6) indicating the locations of various components. Below this is a loadout table with columns for positions 1 through 6 and rows for different equipment types. The 'INTERNAL FUEL' panel on the right provides detailed weight and fuel status information.

	6	5	4	3	2	1
Empty						
HOT3x2					🎯	🎯
HOT3x4			🎯	🎯	🎯	🎯
Hot3x2, IR Deflector	IR				🎯	🎯
Hot3x4, FAS, IR Deflector	IR	🎯	🎯	🎯	🎯	🎯
Hot3x4, IR Deflector	IR		🎯	🎯	🎯	🎯
IR Deflector	IR					

INTERNAL FUEL

FUEL WEIGHT	51	%	
EQUIPPED EMPTY WEIGHT	467	lbs	
WEAPONS	326	lbs	
PLANNING CARGO	0	kg	
MAX	4630	TOTAL 4497	lbs
		97	%

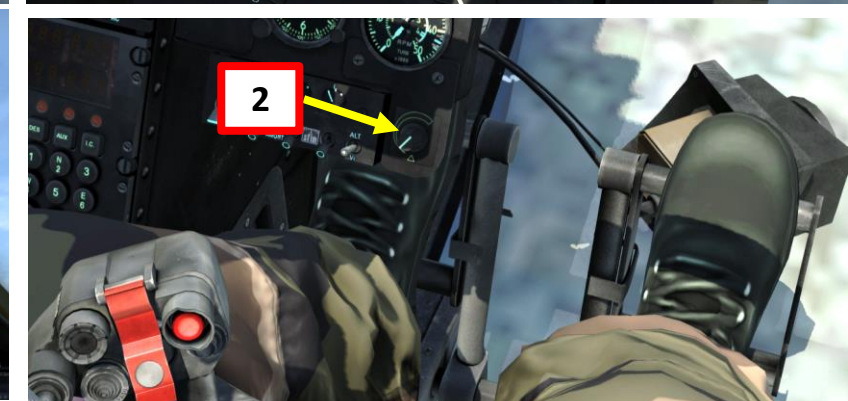
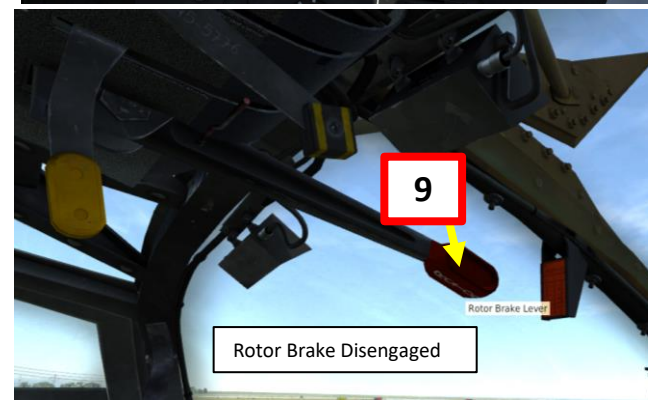
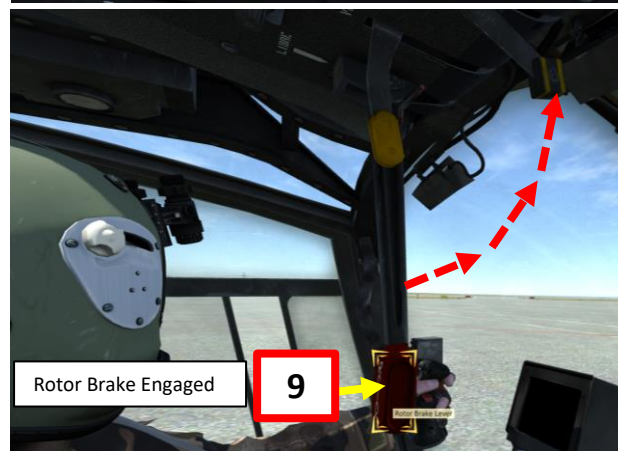
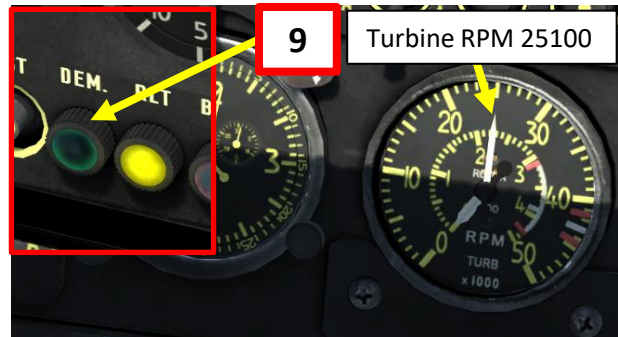
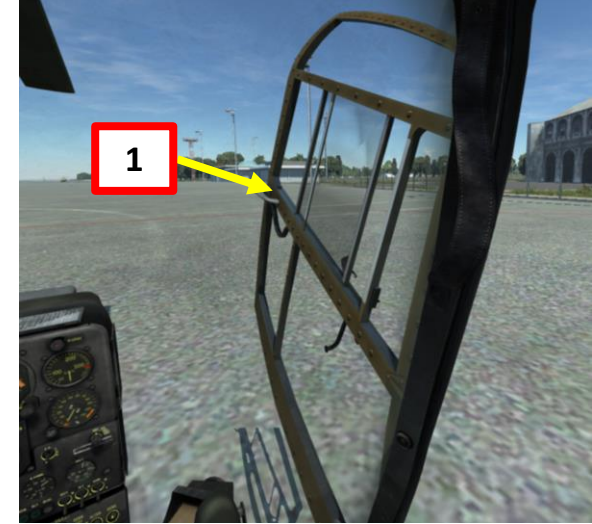
CHAFF: 0
FLARE: 32
GUN: 100 %

PAINT SCHEME: Combat
ROPE LENGTH: 49 feet

DFLT: Gazelle.miz LAT: 42° 7' 9" N LONG: 42° 59' 6" E ALT: 522 1:200000 PAN/SELECT MAP SAT ALT 9.05.2016 0:20:58

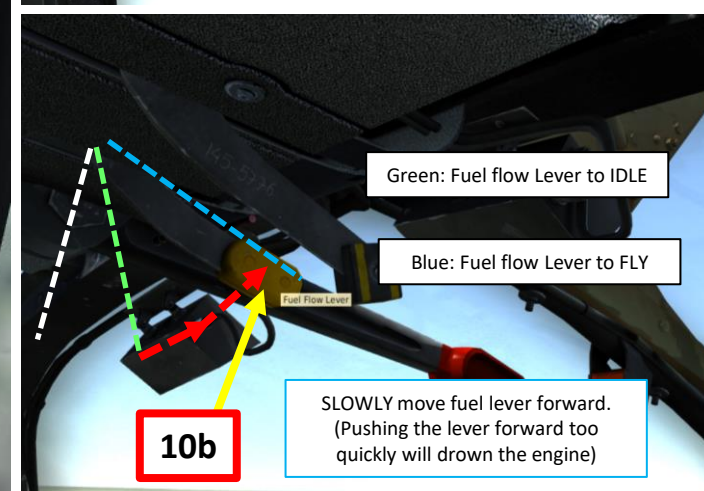
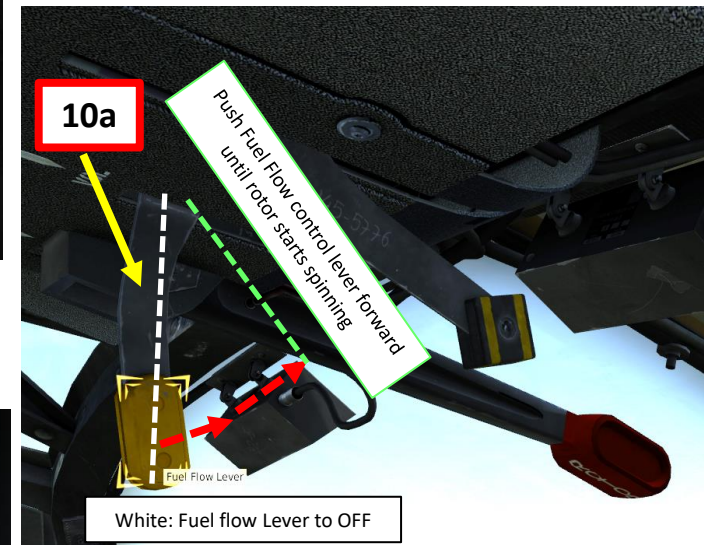
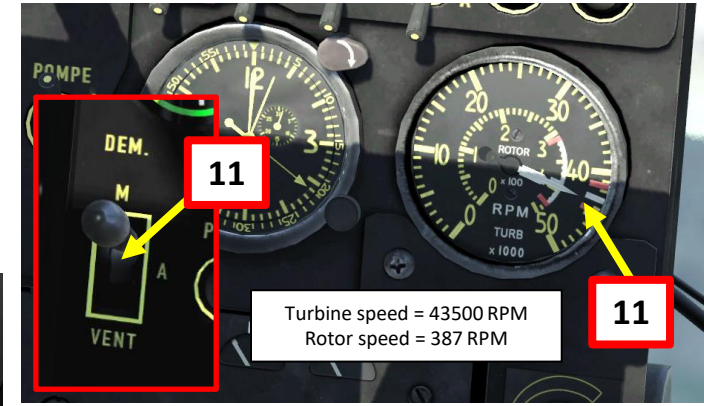
START-UP PROCEDURE

- 1) Press RCtrl+C to close doors
- 2) Set UV Lighting as required
- 3) Set Battery switch ON by turning it UP to **MARCHE**.
- 4) Set Alternator switch ON by turning it UP to **MARCHE**.
- 5) Set Generator switch ON by turning it UP to **MARCHE**.
- 6) Set Fuel Pump (*Pompe*) switch ON by turning it UP to **MARCHE**.
- 7) Start stop-watch timer on the clock and wait for 20 seconds to allow the fuel pumps enough time to prime the fuel lines.
- 8) After 20 seconds, set the starter (*Démarrreur*) switch ON by turning it up to **MARCHE**. Ensure starter (DEM) lamp illuminates. Remember to reset the Stop-Watch.
- 9) Once Turbine RPM reaches IDLE (25100), release rotor brake by pushing it forward (click and drag). DEM lamp should extinguish once turbine reaches IDLE RPM.



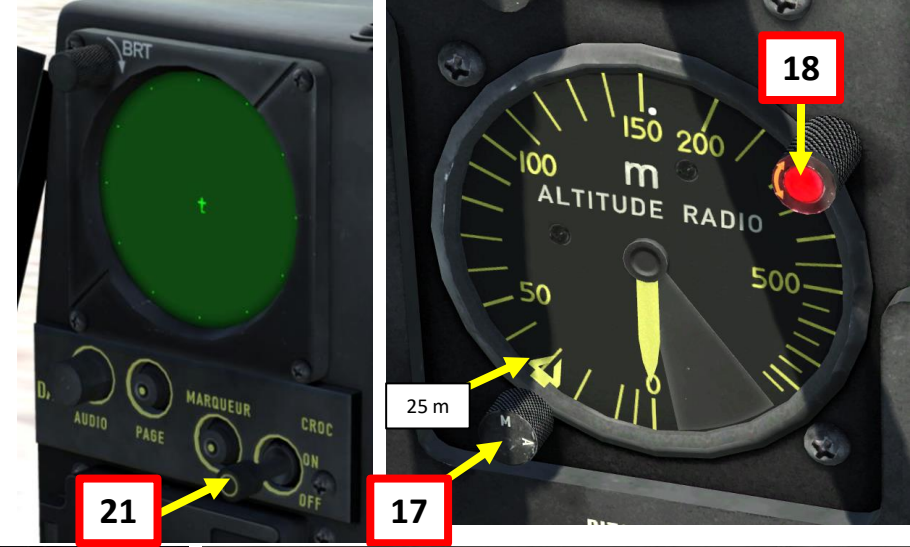
START-UP PROCEDURE

- 10) a) Push Fuel Flow control lever forward until rotor starts spinning.
b) Wait for turbine and rotor to sync, then SLOWLY move fuel lever forward. (Pushing the lever forward too quickly will down the engine)
- 11) Wait until Turbine RPM reaches 43500 and Rotor RPM reaches 387. After, leave the starter (*Démarrreur*) switch ON to *MARCHE*.
- 12) Set Pitot Heat switch ON by turning it UP to *MARCHE*.
- 13) Set Trimmer Heat switch ON by turning it UP to *MARCHE*.
- 14) Set Magnetic Brake (*Débrayage des Efforts*) switch ON by turning it UP to *MARCHE*.
- 15) Set gyro mode to GM (Gyro-Magnetic mode). Wait for alignment.
- 16) Set Autopilot Power and Main Axes switches ON by turning them UP.



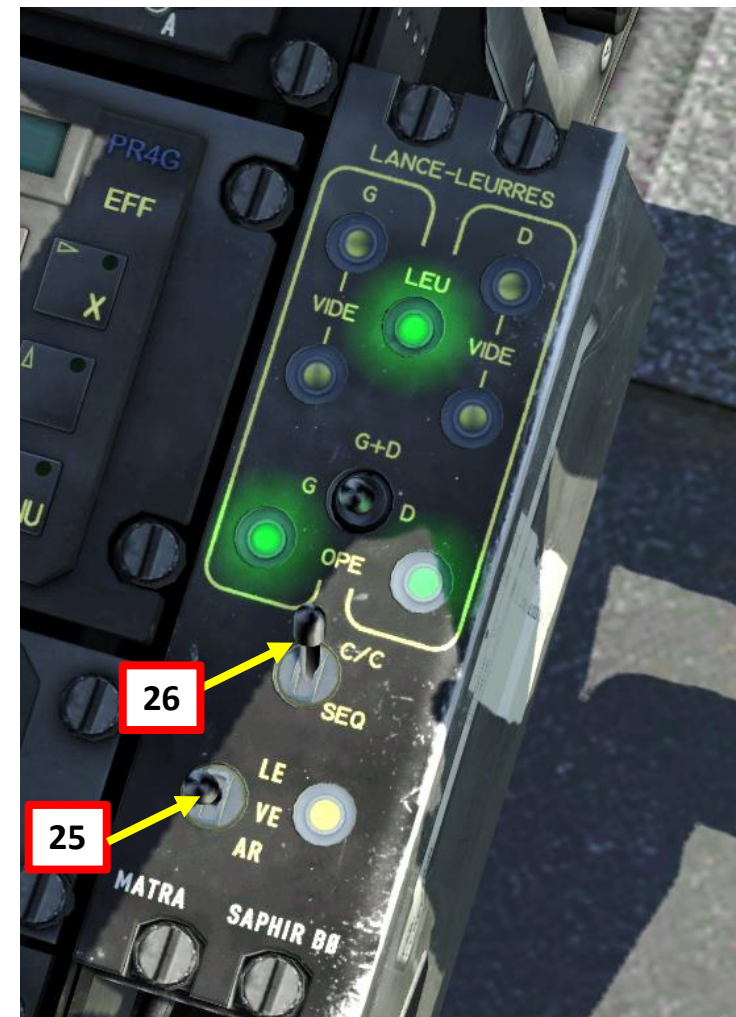
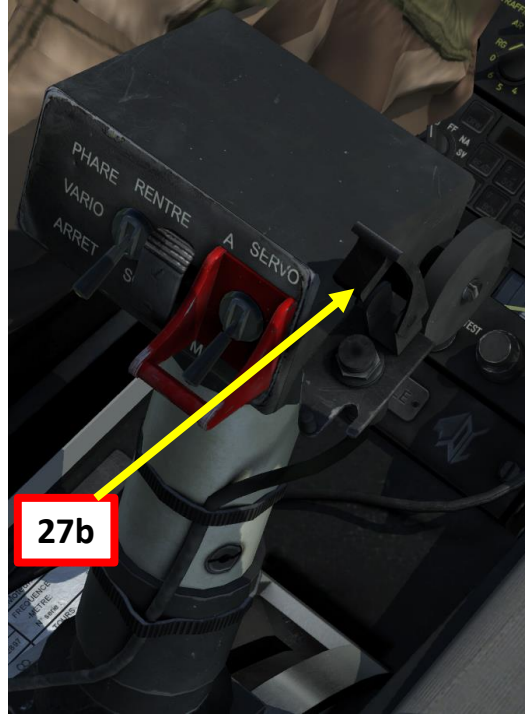
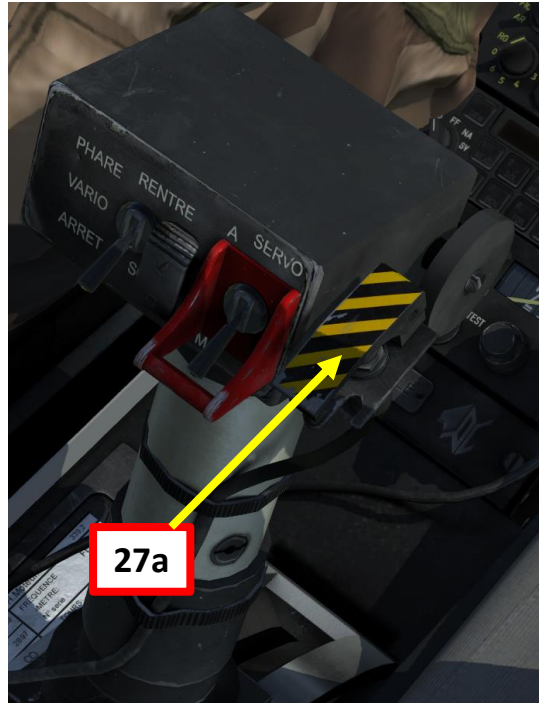
START-UP PROCEDURE

- 17) Set Radar Altimeter switch ON/MARCHE (scroll mousewheel)
- 18) Set manually the “Danger Altitude” using the bug rotator. Typically, I set it to 25 m.
- 19) Uncage Main ADI (Attitude Director Indicator) by left-clicking on the Caging knob, holding it and scrolling your mousewheel to remove the flag.
- 20) Uncage Standby ADI (Attitude Director Indicator) by left-clicking on the Caging knob, holding it and scrolling your mousewheel to remove the flag.
- 21) Set DRAX33 RWR (Radar Warning Receiver) switch to ON (MIDDLE).
- 22) Set NADIR parameter to BUT to select waypoints.
- 23) Set NADIR mode to VEILLE (Standby) and wait for completion of alignment phase, which should take approximately 70 seconds. (ERR, AIR and NAV cautions will extinguish)
- 24) Set NADIR mode to “Terre” (Ground). If the WAYPOINT PRELOAD option has been selected in the mission editor, all your waypoints will be entered already in the waypoint database. If not, you will have to enter each waypoint manually (see NAVIGATION section).



START-UP PROCEDURE

- 25) Set your Flare Dispenser (*Lance-Leurres*) power switch to either LE (*Lent* = Slow) or VE (*Vite* = Fast)
- 26) Set your Flare Dispenser Launch Quantity to either C/C (*Single*) or SEQ (*Sequence*).
- 27) Flare Dispenser Cover Switch - UP



HOVER POWER CHECK – WHY IT ACTUALLY MATTERS

- The standard procedure for takeoff requires you to do a “5-ft (1.5 m) hover power check”.
- Engine performance will vary based on temperature, humidity and air density/pressure altitude (QNH).
- For the exact same loadout and same weight, two identical helicopter configurations can perform differently based on temperature and atmospheric pressure. In a hot & humid setting, the helicopter cannot generate enough power to hover over the ground. In normal temperature & humidity conditions though, we can hover without any problem.
- This is why you need to do a hover power check to confirm that the torque you need to hover does not exceed maximum allowable torque requirements.
- A hover power check is simple: maintain a 5 ft high hover and note the torque value required to maintain this attitude. If this value is greater than the maximum allowable torque value to maintain a hover state specified in the chart, this means that you are too heavy. If the torque value is within the safe range, you’re good to go! If it’s not, you should probably carry less fuel or reduce your payload.
- A pilot’s ability to predict his engine performance will allow him to know if he can safely hover or not, what climb rates he takes and how he MUST operate his machine to its full potential.

Max Allowable
Torque Chart



		MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE TORQUE (%)										
ft	\ deg C	-50	-40	-30	-20	-10	0	10	20	30	40	45
-1500		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	95	91
0		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	90	85
3000		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	98	90	80	X
6000		100	100	100	100	100	100	94	87	80	X	X
9000		100	100	100	100	95	90	84	77	X	X	X
12000		100	98	94	90	85	80	75	X	X	X	X
15000		92	88	84	80	76	71	X	X	X	X	X
18000		81	77	74	71	67	X	X	X	X	X	X
20000		74	71	68	65	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

HOW TO HOVER

1. Apply right pedal to stay centered and avoid drifting.
2. Use cyclic to remain straight and level.
3. Raise collective very gently to initiate a hover.
4. Hovering is hard at first. Failure to predict the helicopter's reaction after cyclic input will often result in you dancing the French Cancan for a looong long time. Think of it like doing plate-spinning: you need to put yourself in a position of equilibrium, so you always need to think one step ahead.
5. Use VERY gentle cyclic and collective inputs and try to maintain a stable torque value.
6. As you reach a stable hover state, the SAS (Stability Augmentation System) yaw, roll and pitch channels will help the helicopter to stabilize itself.



HELICOPTER NATURALLY
ROTATES TO THE LEFT

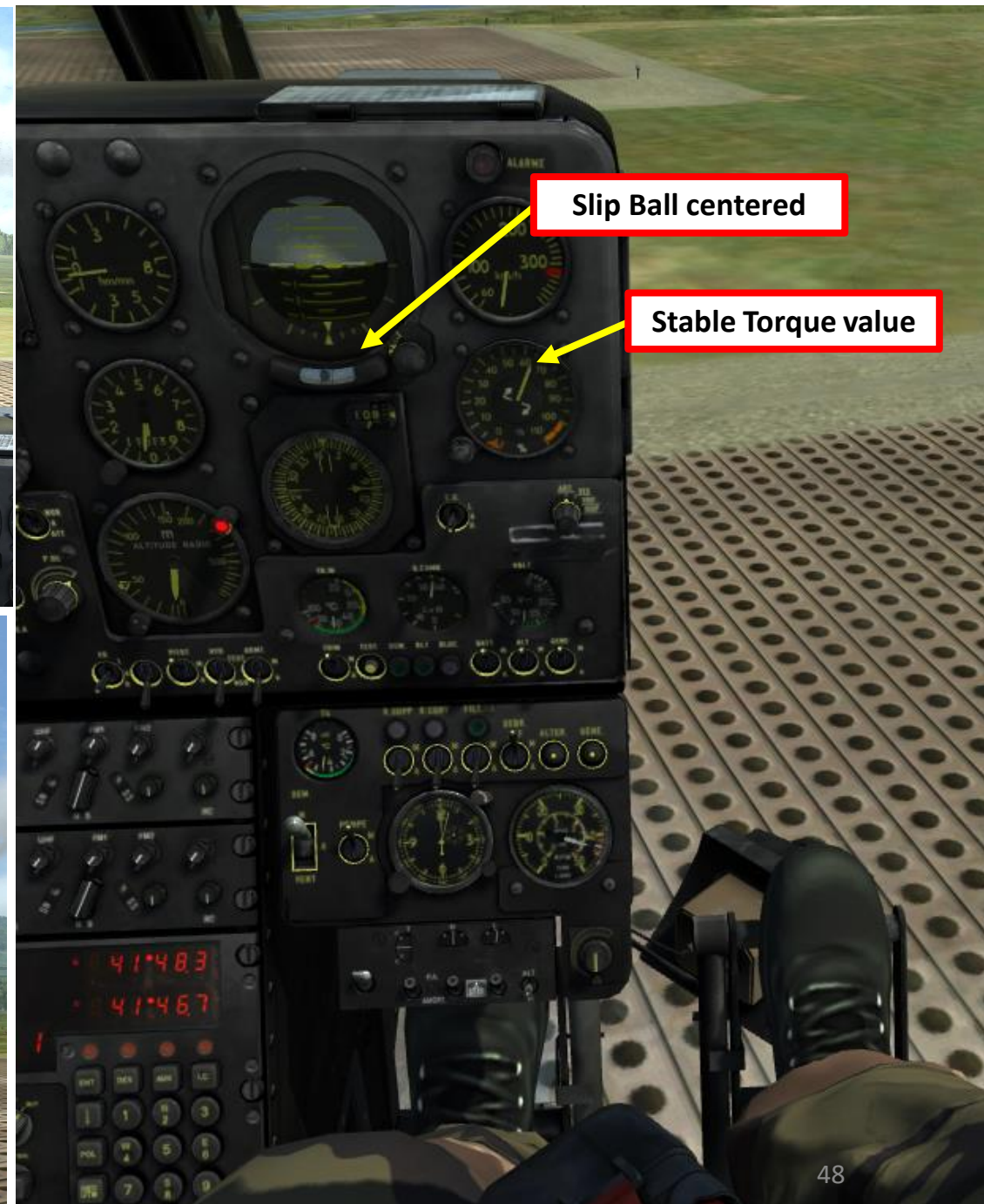
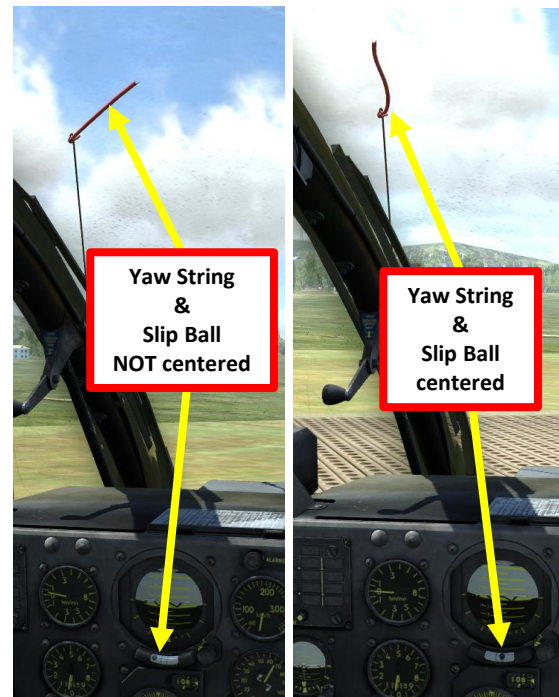
RIGHT ANTI-TORQUE
PEDAL INPUT IS REQUIRED
TO COUNTER TORQUE

APPLY RIGHT PEDAL

HOW TO HOVER

There are things you need to pay attention to when hovering:

1. Make sure that your torque value is stable for a 5 ft (1.5 m) hover.
2. Torque will vary based on collective and anti-torque pedal input.
3. A good indication of drifting is your slip ball and yaw string.
4. Once you can maintain a hover state, try not to touch the collective unless you are about to smack the ground.
5. Do not pull on the cyclic too hard or your tail will hit the ground.
6. The cyclic is extremely sensitive to violent inputs. Use smooth, gentle cyclic inputs.



TAKING OFF

NOTE: There are many ways to takeoff in a Gazelle. The best way is generally a function of your loadout, weight and mission.

1. Check that all your engine (pressure & temperature) are within safe parameters.
2. Ensure that maximum torque is not exceeded.
3. Check to see if all your flight instruments all set up properly.
4. Once you have performed a hover check and are maintaining a 5 ft (1.5 m) hover, you can taxi to the runway. Just push your nose down slightly to move forward.
5. When lined up, push nose slightly forward to start gaining horizontal speed. No collective input should be required since you are already in a hover state. This is the normal takeoff and the safest procedure. You can also attempt a maximum performance takeoff, which will be more taxing on the rotor blades and can end in tragedy if you are too heavily loaded or the environmental conditions don't allow for it. I recommend using the normal takeoff since you are very unlikely to fly at empty weight. You're better off being safe than sorry.
6. NORMAL TAKEOFF: Keep accelerating and you will start generating more and more translational lift, naturally climbing. Try to maintain an airspeed of 120 km/h when climbing.

Max Allowable
Torque Chart



Figure 9-7. The helicopter takes several positions during a normal takeoff from hover.

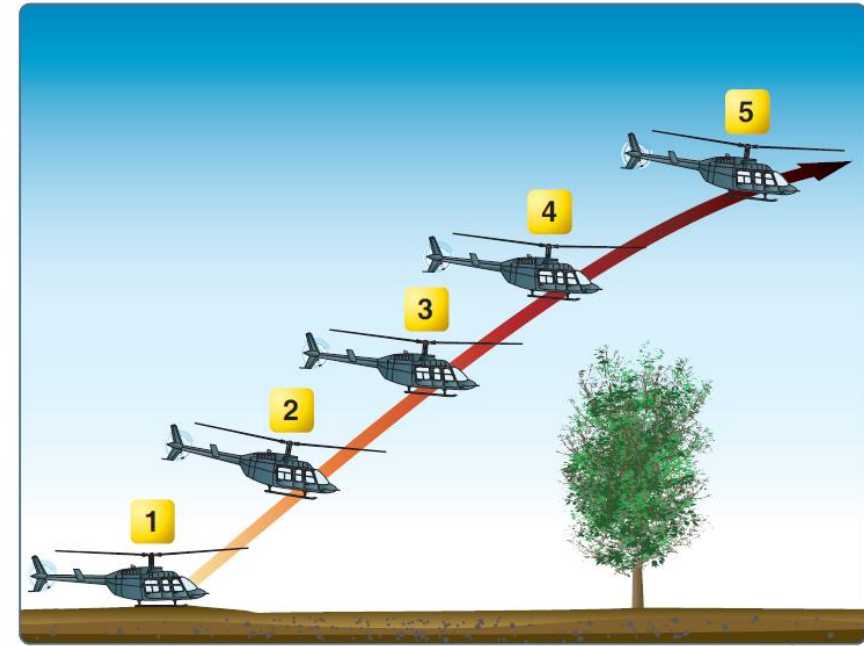


Figure 10-1. Maximum performance takeoff.

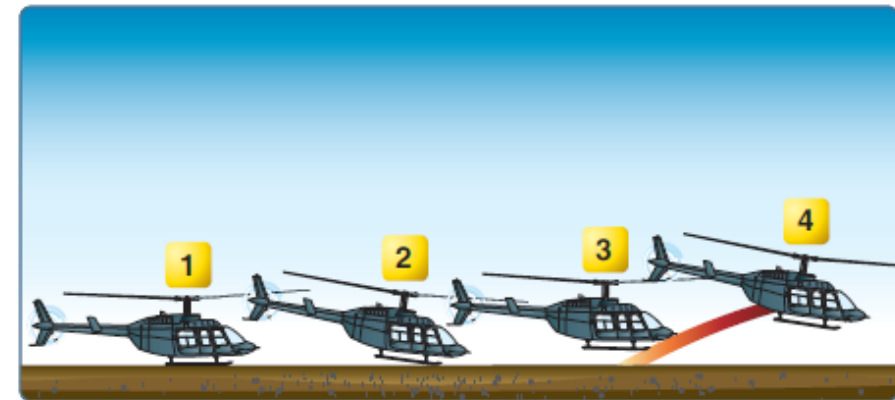


Figure 10-2. Running/rolling takeoff.

VISUAL LANDING

NOTE: When you think about it, a helicopter is usually landed like an aircraft: you maintain a descent rate, reach a touchdown point and pull back on your cyclic to bleed speed and come to a full stop. There are many different types of approaches. Your approach and landing type will depend on the type of LZ (landing zone) and the type of mission you are doing.

- 1) Start descent from 150 m. Fly towards a reference point on the runway. Pay particular attention to the Vortex Ring State (state in which the helicopter is settling in its own downwash and gets sucked down, which is caused by a flight profile of forward flight less than ETL (Effective Translational Lift, helicopter is slower than 20-25 km/h), rate of descent of 300ft/min or more and at least 20% power applied). VRS is further explained in Part 9: Principles of Helicopter Flight.
- 2) From 150 to 50 m, use collective and cyclic input to maintain 120 km/h for a descent rate of 100 m/min or less
- 3) Reduce speed to 70 km/h when you are 50 m: you will start feeling excess lift being generated by ground effect. You will also feel the SAS (stability augmentation system) channels being automatically disengaged around 80-90 km/h, so prepare to counter incoming torque with your anti-torque pedals. Adjust collective to keep a straight trajectory towards your reference point while reducing airspeed.
- 4) You should reach your reference point in a 5 ft (1.5 m) hover. Use your cyclic to come to a full stop, and raise your collective to “cushion” the sudden drop caused by the loss of translational lift (which is caused by the loss of airspeed).
- 5) Once you have come to a full stop in a 5 ft (1.5 m) hover, you can slowly reduce collective to safely land on the ground.

NOTE: It takes a lot of practice to be able to counter the different flight states you will go through when coming for an approach and landing. This is why performing hover power checks before takeoff is very useful: it helps you master the hover state.

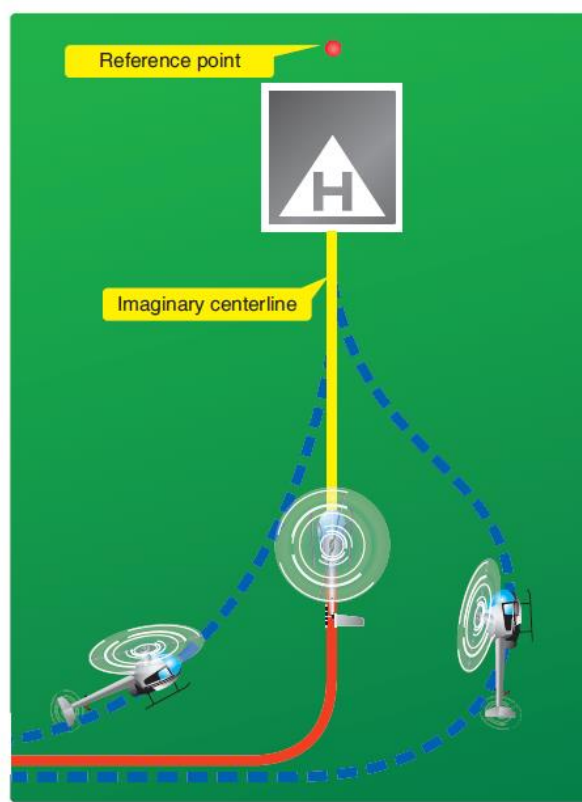


Figure 9-20. Plan the turn to final so the helicopter rolls out on an imaginary extension of the centerline for the final approach path. This path should neither angle to the landing area, as shown by the helicopter on the left, nor require an S-turn, as shown by the helicopter on the right.

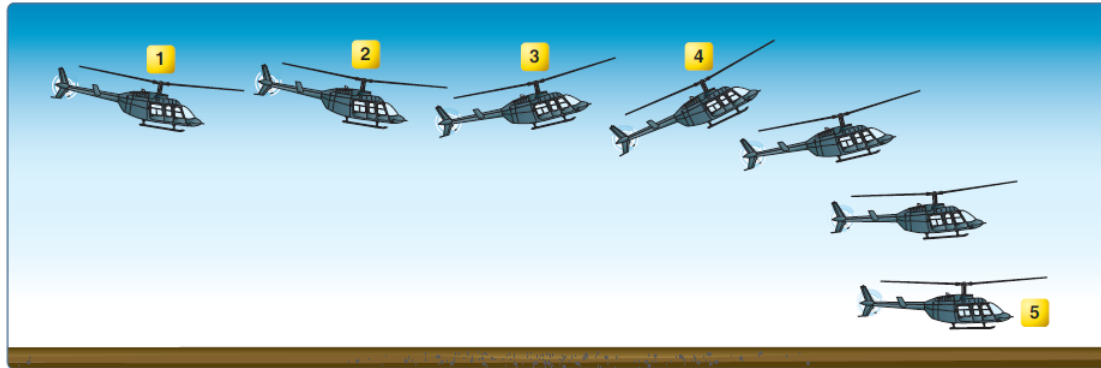


Figure 10-3. Rapid deceleration or quick stop.

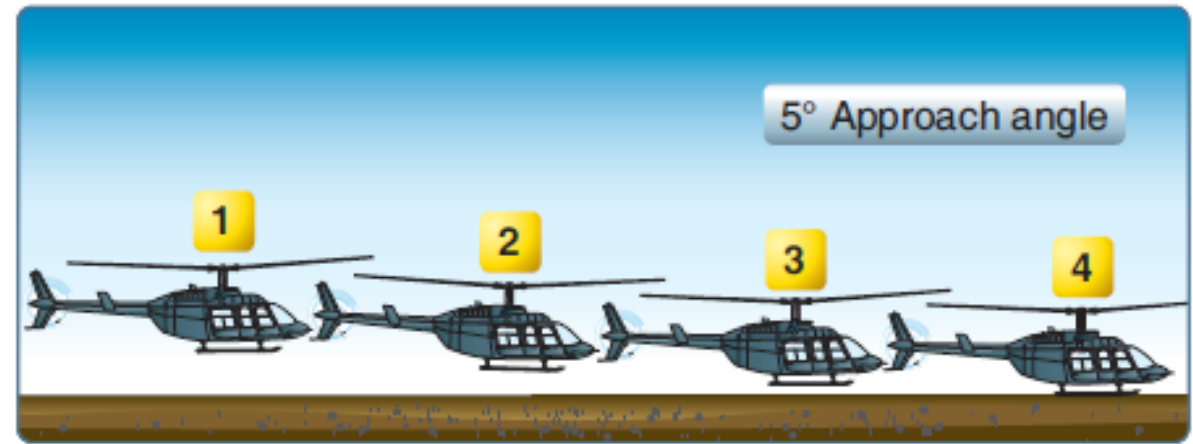


Figure 10-5. Shallow approach and running landing.

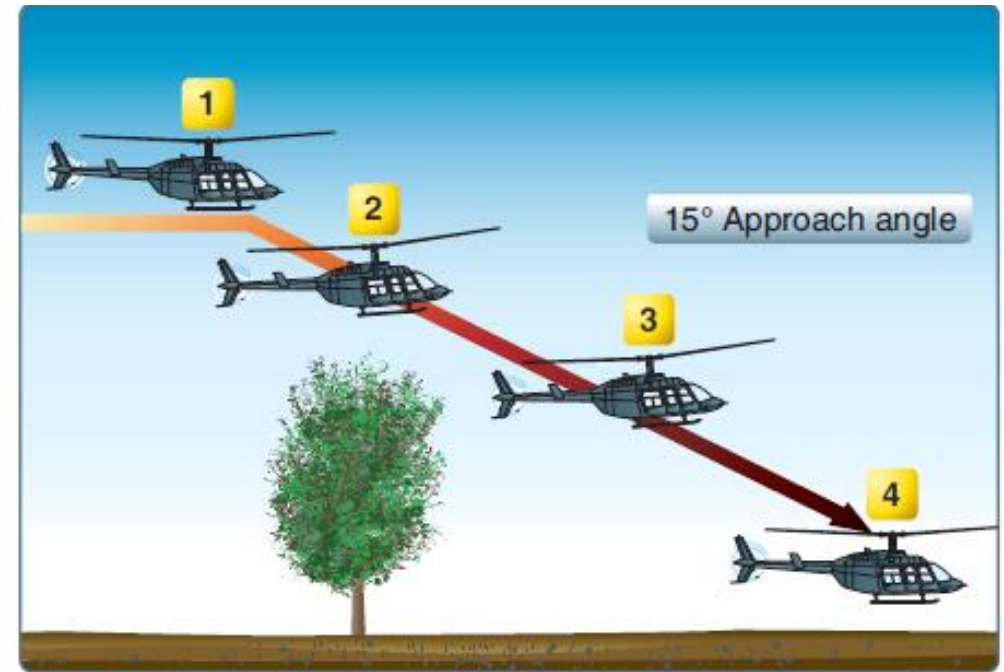
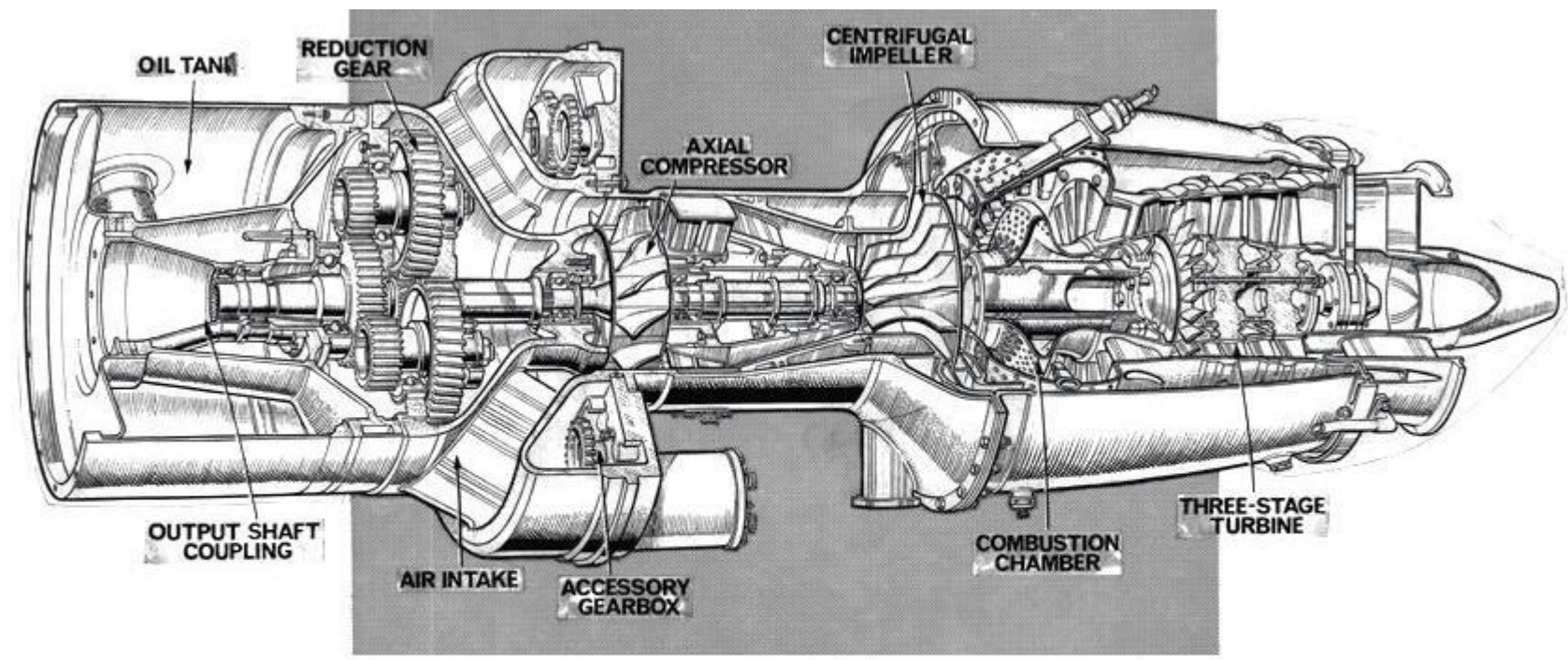


Figure 10-4. Steep approach to a hover.

Named after two summits of the Pyrenees, the Astazou XIV engine (649 kW or 870 shp) powers the SA-342M Gazelle. The Astazou XIV is the descendant of the Astazou II engine, used on the Aerospatiale Alouette. With a pressure ratio of 8:1, it has a two-stage axial plus a single-stage centrifugal compressor, an annular combustor, and a three-stage turbine. What makes this engine different is that it's what's commonly referred to as a fixed shaft, or fixed turbine engine, as opposed the free turbine engine which is what most modern helicopters use.

The internal mechanics of this is mostly transparent to the operator, but what stands out is the simplified engine start, which the Turbomeca Astazou had long before the invention of the modern FADEC (Full Authority Digital Engine Controller). Also, the ability to have the engine at idle without the rotors moving is different than what you might have on the Huey or the Mi-8. When you start a free turbine engine, like those equipped on most modern helicopters (without a rotor brake) you will notice that the rotor system slowly starts to move and as soon as NG or N1 (the engines compressor speed) gets up to speed before fuel is even introduced. This isn't always so on a fixed turbine, in which the clutch doesn't engage until the drive shaft RPM is somewhere above idle.



Turbomeca Astazou Gas Turbine Engine



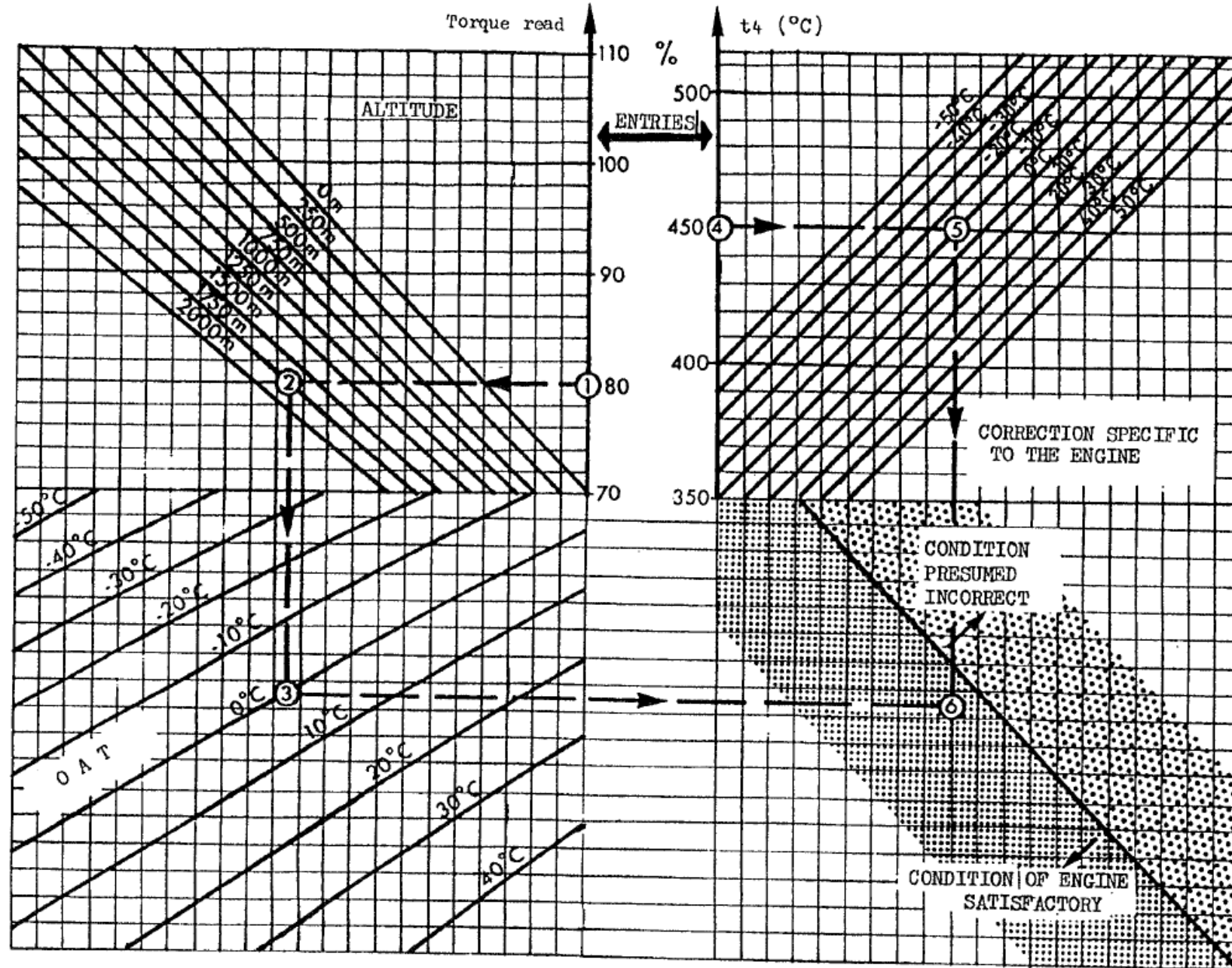
Torquemeter (%)

Overtorque Lamp

Engine Oil Temperature (deg C)

Inner Scale: Rotor RPM x 100
Outer Scale: Turbine RPM x 1000

ENGINE CONDITION CHECK CHART



The Fenestron

A **Fenestron** (or fantail, sometimes called "fan-in-fin") is a protected tail rotor of a helicopter operating like a ducted fan. Placing the fan within a duct reduces tip vortex losses, shields the tail rotor from damage, is much quieter than a conventional tail rotor, and shields ground crews from the hazard of a spinning rotor. The housing is integral with the tail skin and, like the conventional tail rotor it replaces, is intended to counteract the torque of the main rotor. It was first developed by the French company Sud Aviation (now part of Airbus Helicopters) and is installed on many of their helicopters including the Gazelle.

Advantages:

- Increased safety for people on the ground because the enclosure provides peripheral protection
- Greatly reduced noise and vibration due to the enclosure of the blade tips, the greater number of blades, and variation in the angular spacing of the blades
- A lower susceptibility to foreign object damage because the enclosure makes it less likely to suck in loose objects such as small rocks
- Enhanced anti-torque control efficiency
- A computational simulation suggested that maximum achievable thrust is twice as high and at identical power, thrust was slightly greater than for a conventional rotor of the same diameter



The Gazelle has one of the most interesting aerodynamic models in DCS. We will look at some aerodynamic concepts to help you understand why this agile light helicopter behaves the way it does. Don't worry, I'll keep it short and simple. The following principles are simply what you MUST understand as a Gazelle pilot if you want to fly worth a darn.



FORCES: TORQUE, TRANSLATIONAL & VERTICAL LIFT

IN A NUTSHELL...

In a hover, you will most likely generate vertical lift only since the lift vector is pointing upwards. However, if you push your nose down and gain horizontal speed, you will notice that you will generate much more lift as you gain speed. This is called “**Translational Lift**”: your blades gain much more lift efficiency as you accelerate.

You might also wonder why you need to apply right pedal and right cyclic when you are hovering. This is simply because of the torque created by the propeller blades’ rotation: we call this “**Translating Tendency**”, or simply “drift”. In a prop airplane, the torque will force you to use anti-torque pedal on takeoff to stay straight. The same principle applies for a helicopter, but in a different axis.

NOTE: THESE PICTURES SHOW THE ROTOR DIRECTION OF THE HUEY. THE GAZELLE'S ROTOR DIRECTION IS INVERTED.

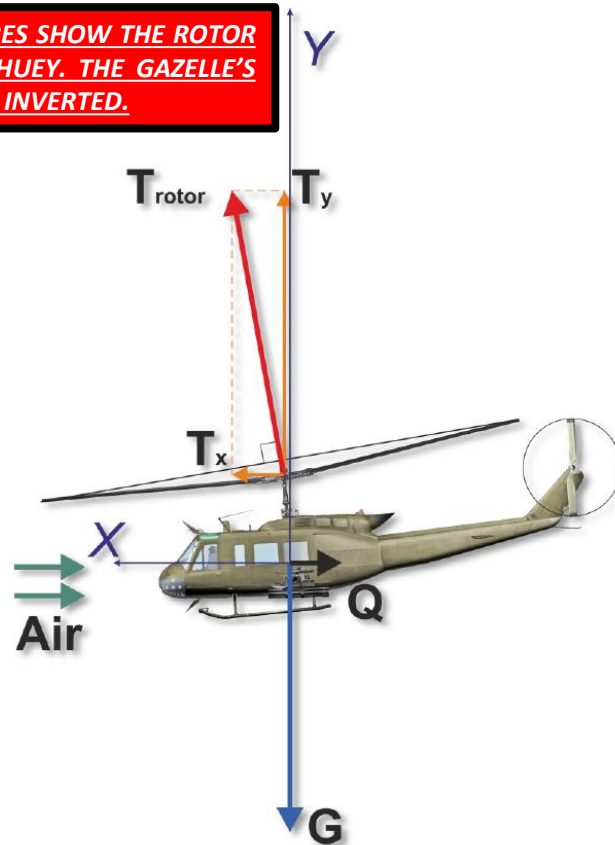


Figure 3.1. Forces Acting on a Helicopter

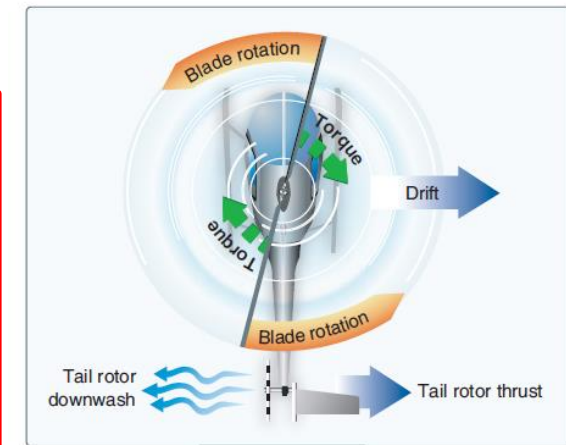


Figure 2-25. A tail rotor is designed to produce thrust in a direction opposite torque. The thrust produced by the tail rotor is sufficient to move the helicopter laterally.

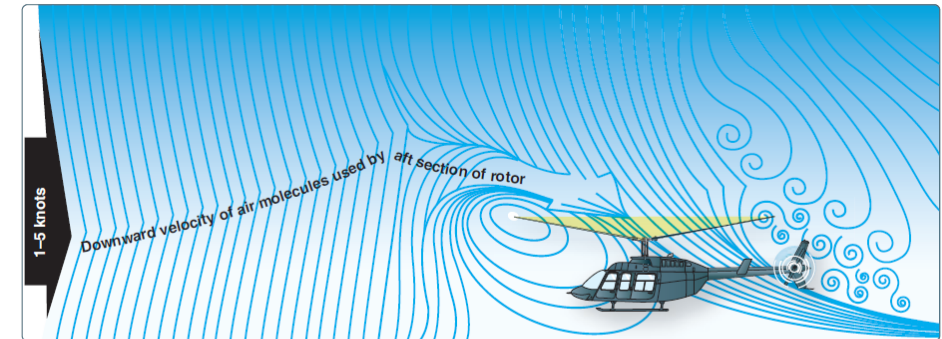


Figure 2-37. The airflow pattern for 1–5 knots of forward airspeed. Note how the downwind vortex is beginning to dissipate and induced flow down through the rear of the rotor system is more horizontal.

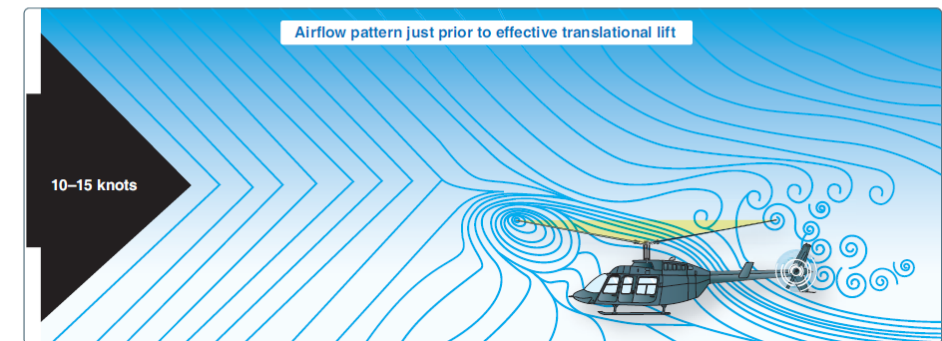


Figure 2-38. An airflow pattern at a speed of 10–15 knots. At this increased airspeed, the airflow continues to become more horizontal. The leading edge of the downwash pattern is being overrun and is well back under the nose of the helicopter.

GYROSCOPIC PRECESSION

IN A NUTSHELL...

The spinning main rotor of a helicopter acts like a gyroscope. What we call “**gyroscopic precession**” is the resultant action or deflection of a spinning object when a force is applied to this object. This action occurs 90 degrees in the direction of rotation from the point where the force is applied, like on a rotating blade.

Now, what does this mean and why should you care about such mumbo jumbo? This means that if you want to push your nose down, you push your cyclic forward. What happens in reality is that pilot control input is mechanically offset 90 degrees “before”.

NOTE: THESE PICTURES SHOW THE ROTOR DIRECTION OF THE HUEY. THE GAZELLE'S ROTOR DIRECTION IS THE OPPOSITE.

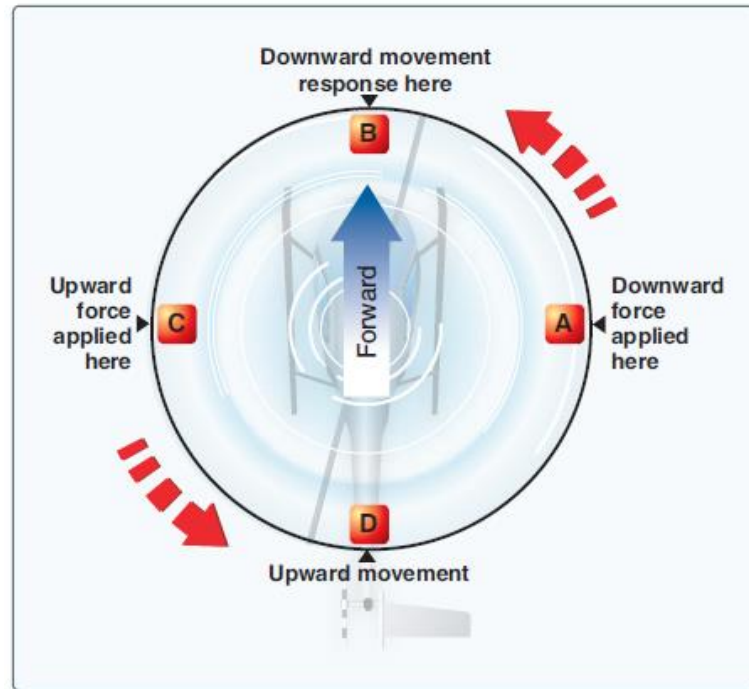


Figure 2-28. Gyroscopic precession.

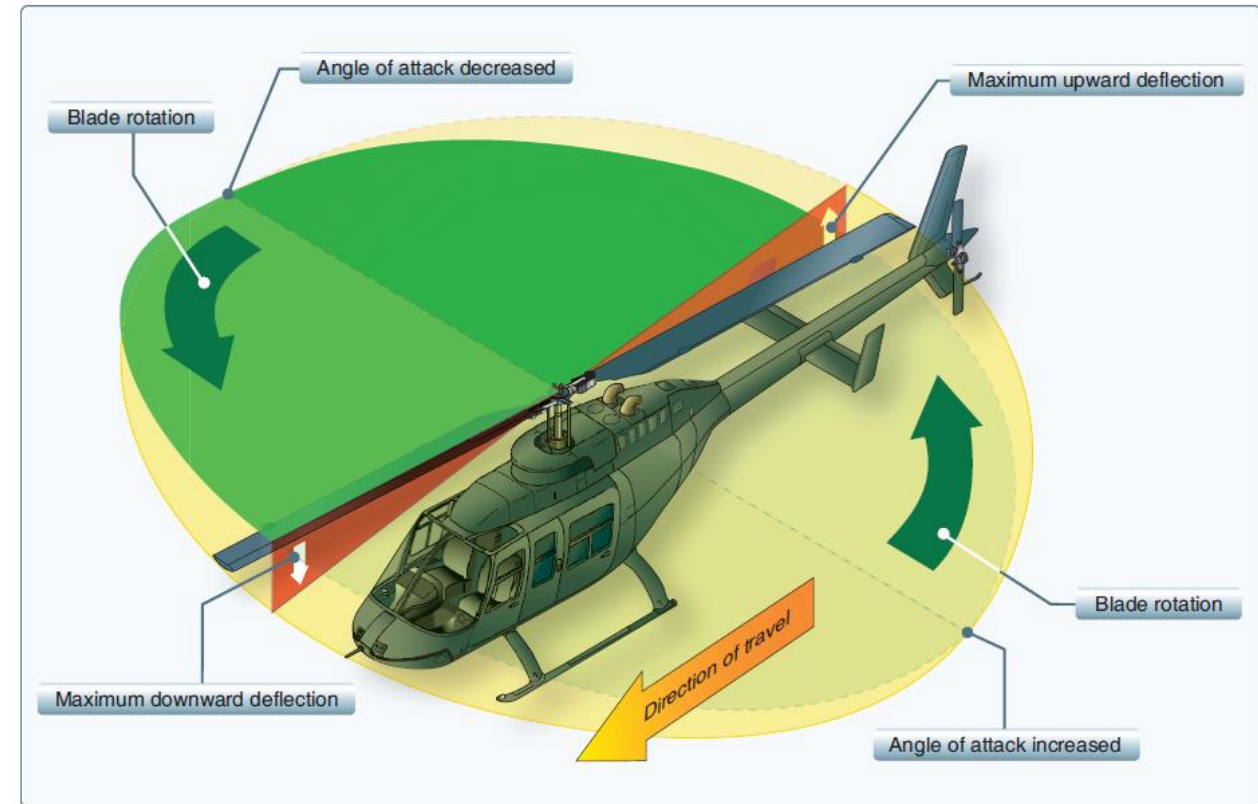


Figure 2-29. As each blade passes the 90° position on the left in a counterclockwise main rotor blade rotation, the maximum increase in angle of incidence occurs. As each blade passes the 90° position to the right, the maximum decrease in angle of incidence occurs. Maximum deflection takes place 90° later—maximum upward deflection at the rear and maximum downward deflection at the front—and the tip-path plane tips forward.

RETREATING BLADE STALL & DISSYMMETRY OF LIFT

In forward flight, the relative airflow through the main rotor disk is different on the advancing and retreating side. The relative airflow over the advancing side is higher due to the forward speed of the helicopter, while the relative airflow on the retreating side is lower. This dissymmetry of lift increases as forward speed increases. To generate the same amount of lift across the rotor disk, the advancing blade flaps up while the retreating blade flaps down. This causes the AOA to decrease on the advancing blade, which reduces lift, and increase on the retreating blade, which increases lift.

At some point as the forward speed increases, the low blade speed on the retreating blade, and its high AOA cause a stall and loss of lift. Retreating blade stall is a major factor in limiting a helicopter's never-exceed speed (VNE) and its development can be felt by a low frequency vibration, pitching up of the nose, and a roll in the direction of the retreating blade. High weight, low rotor rpm, high density altitude, turbulence and/or steep, abrupt turns are all conducive to retreating blade stall at high forward airspeeds. As altitude is increased, higher blade angles are required to maintain lift at a given airspeed.

Thus, retreating blade stall is encountered at a lower forward airspeed at altitude. Most manufacturers publish charts and graphs showing a VNE decrease with altitude.

NOTE: THESE PICTURES SHOW THE ROTOR DIRECTION OF THE HUEY. THE GAZELLE'S ROTOR DIRECTION IS THE OPPOSITE.

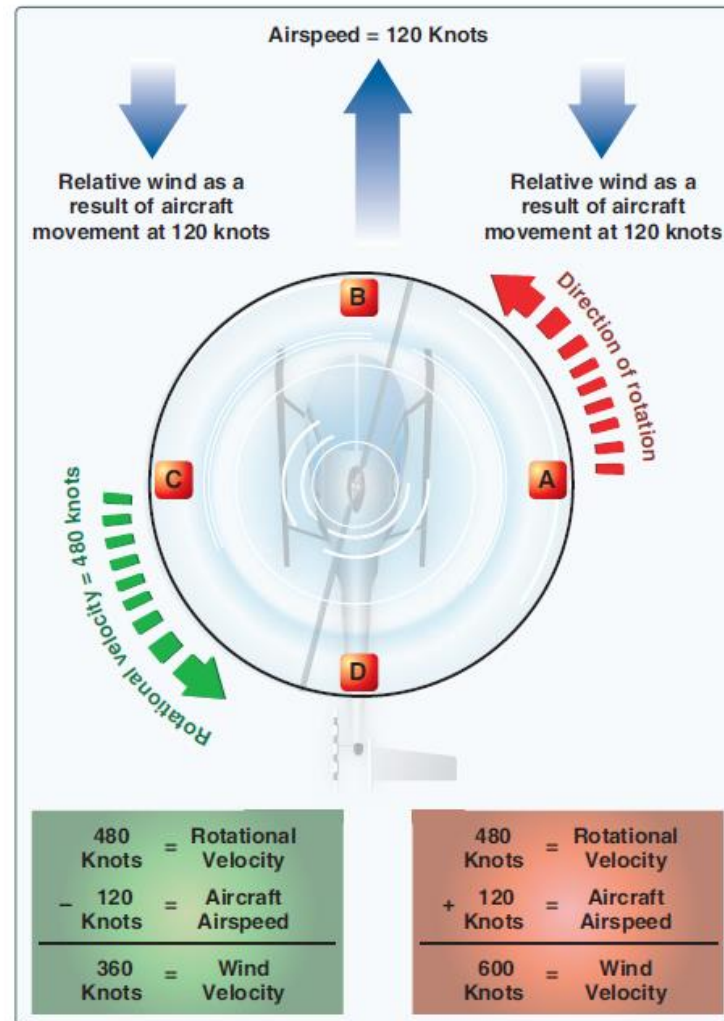


Figure 2-33. Airflow in forward flight.

IN A NUTSHELL...

Did you ever wonder why your helicopter can never stay straight when you center your cyclic stick? The reason why you always need to hold your stick to your right and forward is because the lift generated by your rotor blade is not equal everywhere on your blades due to the blowback effect (pitch up moment caused by blade flapping and transverse flow during the transition from a hover to forward flight). Therefore, the lift profile is **not symmetric**. "Lift dissymmetry" is just other fancy ways to refer to this phenomenon.

"Retreating Blade Stall" is a major factor in limiting a helicopter's maximum forward airspeed. Just as the stall of a fixed wing aircraft wing limits the low-air-speed flight envelope, the stall of a rotor blade limits the high-speed potential of a helicopter.

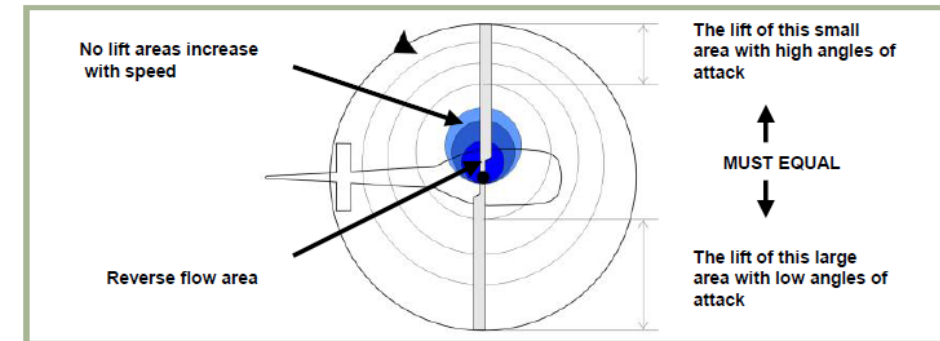


Figure 3.8. Normal Cruise Lift Pattern

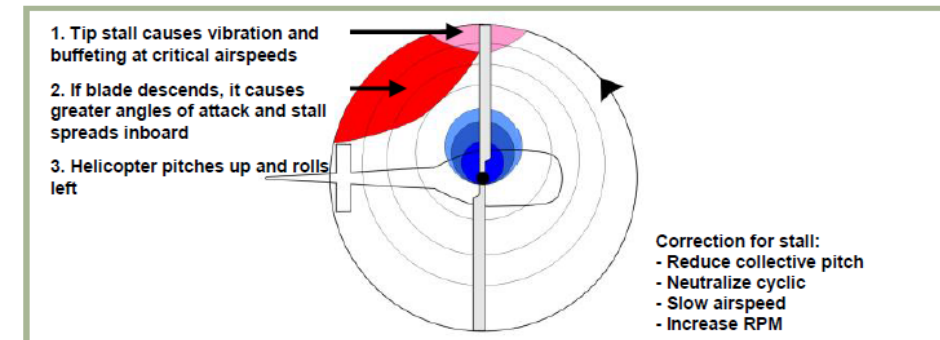


Figure 3.9. Lift Pattern at Critical Airspeed

OGE VS IGE: UNDERSTANDING GROUND EFFECT

Ground effect is the increased efficiency of the rotor system caused by interference of the airflow when near the ground. The air pressure or density is increased, which acts to decrease the downward velocity of air. Ground effect permits relative wind to be more horizontal, lift vector to be more vertical, and induced drag to be reduced.

These conditions allow the rotor system to be more efficient. Maximum ground effect is achieved when hovering over smooth hard surfaces. When hovering over surfaces as tall grass, trees, bushes, rough terrain, and water, maximum ground effect is reduced. Rotor efficiency is increased by ground effect to a height of about one rotor diameter (measured from the ground to the rotor disk) for most helicopters. Since the induced flow velocities are decreased, the AOA is increased, which requires a reduced blade pitch angle and a reduction in induced drag. This reduces the power required to hover IGE.

The benefit of placing the helicopter near the ground is lost above IGE altitude, which is what we call OGE: Out of Ground Effect.

IN A NUTSHELL...

Ground Effect is what gives you additional lift when you are flying close to the ground. A hover, for instance, is much easier to maintain close to the ground torque-wise since ground effect is nullified at higher altitudes.

Ground effect is specially important on missions where you need to fly NOE (Nap-Of-Earth, where even lawnmowers dare not set foot).

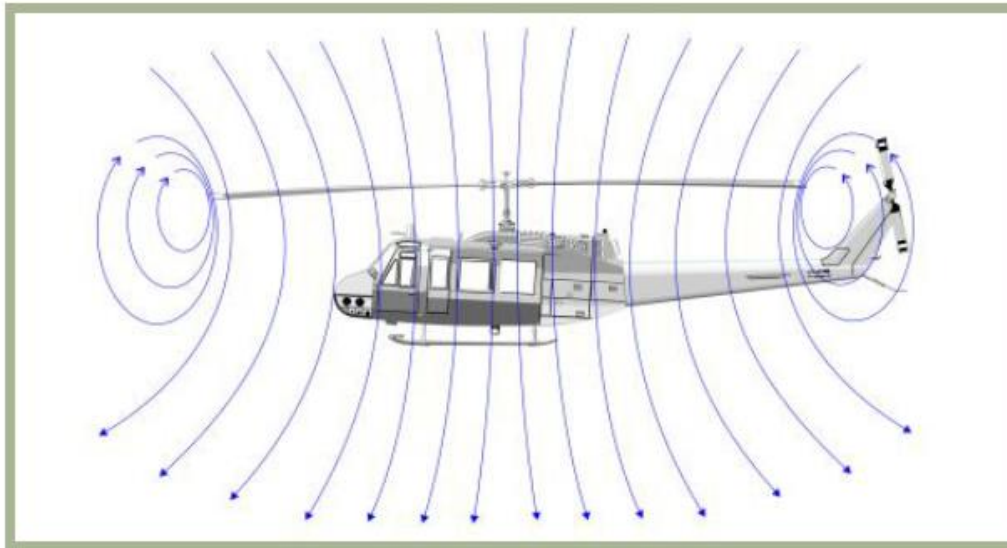


Figure 3.13. Airflow When Out of Ground Effect

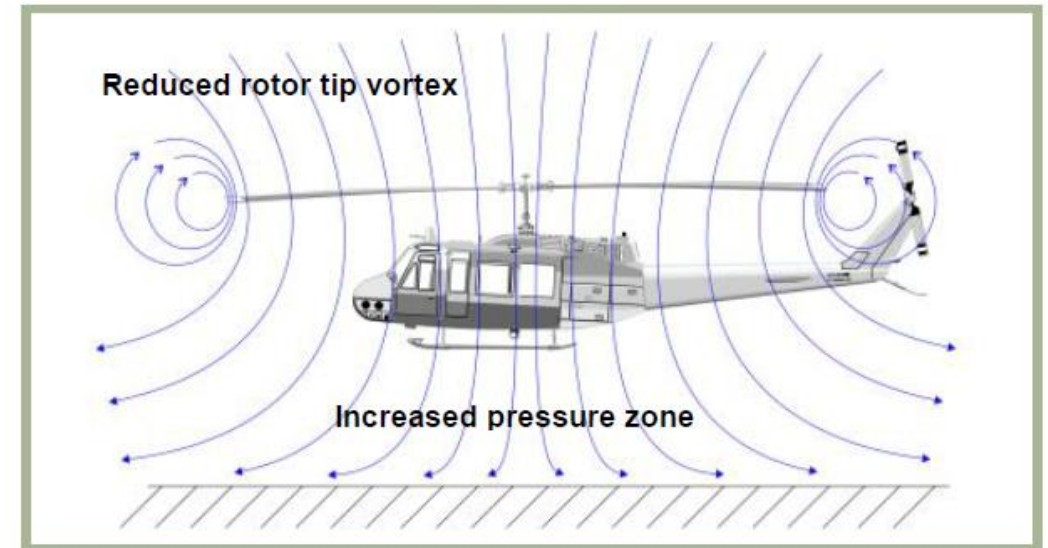


Figure 3.14. Airflow When In Ground Effect

VORTEX RING STATE (VRS)

Vortex ring state describes an aerodynamic condition in which a helicopter may be in a vertical descent with 20 percent up to maximum power applied, and little or no climb performance. The term “settling with power” comes from the fact that the helicopter keeps settling even though full engine power is applied.

In a normal out-of-ground-effect (OGE) hover, the helicopter is able to remain stationary by propelling a large mass of air down through the main rotor. Some of the air is recirculated near the tips of the blades, curling up from the bottom of the rotor system and rejoining the air entering the rotor from the top. This phenomenon is common to all airfoils and is known as tip vortices. Tip vortices generate drag and degrade airfoil efficiency. As long as the tip vortices are small, their only effect is a small loss in rotor efficiency. However, when the helicopter begins to descend vertically, it settles into its own downwash, which greatly enlarges the tip vortices. In this vortex ring state, most of the power developed by the engine is wasted in circulating the air in a doughnut pattern around the rotor.

A fully developed vortex ring state is characterized by an unstable condition in which the helicopter experiences uncommanded pitch and roll oscillations, has little or no collective authority, and achieves a descent rate that may approach 6,000 feet per minute (fpm) if allowed to develop.

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

One of the biggest issues new pilots have is that they do not understand what VRS is, what it does, why it happens and how to counter it. In simple terms, if your airspeed is around 20-30 km/h (which is the speed at which VRS usually occurs), you will experience a sudden loss of lift that will cause you to drop like a rock. VRS also occurs in situations where you have a descent rate of 150 m/min or greater. More often than not, VRS happens when you are trapped in a column of disrupted air created by your own rotor blades, and this (unfortunately) often occurs at the most critical part of flight: on LANDING.

Oh, now I’ve got your attention? Good. One of the biggest problems Peter Pilots experience is to land their chopper. Even in real life, there are many pilots who do what we call a “hard landing” because they did not anticipate correctly the sudden loss of lift caused by VRS. A hard landing is when you impact the ground at a vertical speed that is too great, which causes structural damage to the skids, and possibly other structural components. The helicopter is not a total loss, but it will require extensive inspection and repairs, which costs time, money, and temporarily deprives the operator from one of its main sources of income.

Countering VRS is easy if you pay attention to your airspeed and descent rate. Once you enter VRS, raising the collective (which is instinctively what someone would do) will do nothing at best, or aggravate the situation at worst. To reduce the descent rate, you need to get out of that column of disrupted air. You counter VRS by pointing the nose down (or in any direction) to pick up some speed and get away from these nasty vortices.

Note: Many pilots confuse VRS with the inertia of your machine. If you come in too fast and raise your collective too slowly, it is to be expected that you will crash.

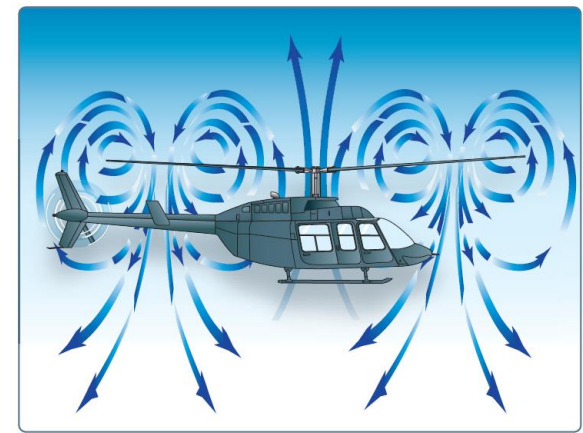


Figure 11-5. Vortex ring state.



AUTOROTATION

Autorotation is a flight state where your engine is disengaged from the rotor system and rotor blades are driven solely by the upward flow of air through the rotor. It can be caused by engine malfunction or engine failure, tail rotor failure or a sudden loss of tail rotor effectiveness.

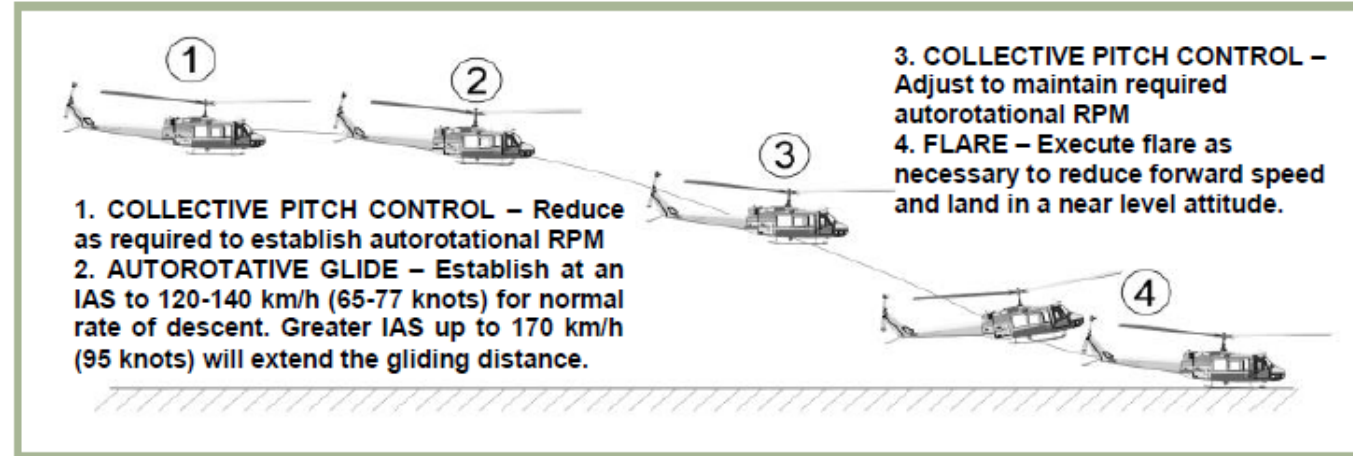


Figure 3.16. Approach to Landing, Power Off

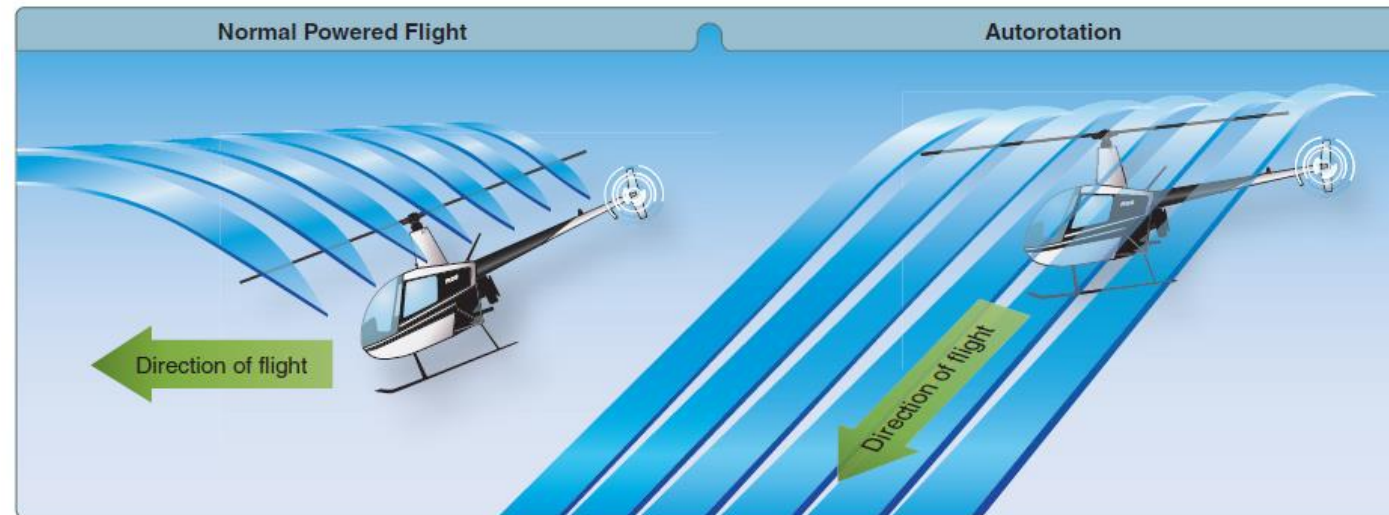


Figure 11-1. During an autorotation, the upward flow of relative wind permits the main rotor blades to rotate at their normal speed. In effect, the blades are “gliding” in their rotational plane.

AUTOROTATION – CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

WHY SHOULD YOU WANT TO SIMULATE AUTOROTATION?

Real life does not come with a “re-spawn” button. Life is imperfect: there is always a chance that you could lose engine power for a million reasons. In the world of DCS, odds are that you will be sent on dangerous (read: SUICIDAL) missions. Forget about milk runs: combat landings, close air support, CSAR... there are very high chances that you will be fired upon. With so much crap flying in the air, you are bound to get zinged by something. This is why if you enter in an autorotation state, you MUST know what you do.

HOW TO SIMULATE AUTOROTATION

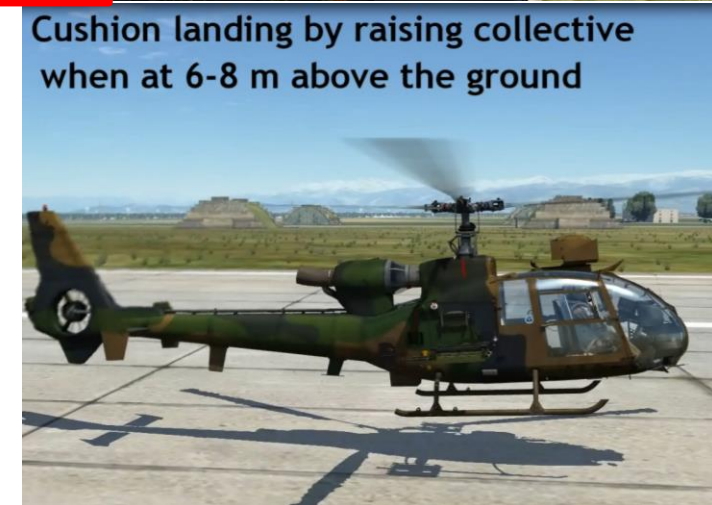
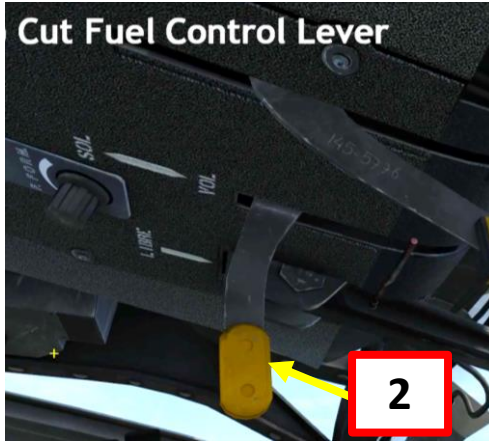
Autorotation can be simulated if you reduce your throttle to IDLE. Train yourself to deal with autorotation and you will be surprised to see how much better your flying will become.

AUTOROTATION RECOVERY EXAMPLE:

- 1) Find a good place to land first and make sure you are at 1000 m more.
- 2) Simulate engine loss of power by reducing throttle by setting it all the way aft.
- 3) Push TRIM RESET switch
- 4) Apply anti-torque pedal to center the slip ball, lower collective and pull up cyclic to compensate for sudden RPM loss.
- 5) Adjust cyclic for a constant descent between 120-140 km/h,
- 6) RECOVERY MODE: TOUCHDOWN (no power, continue descent and land)
 - a) Once condition at step 5) is respected , continue descent and do not touch collective.
 - b) At 20 m AGL, perform a moderate flare (watch your vertical velocity indicator).
 - c) At 6-8 m AGL, raise (increase) collective to cushion your landing.
 - d) Let the helicopter “gently” touch the ground.

Here is a video tutorial showcasing a Gazelle autorotation recovery by yours truly.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F_a9q_B-TRE



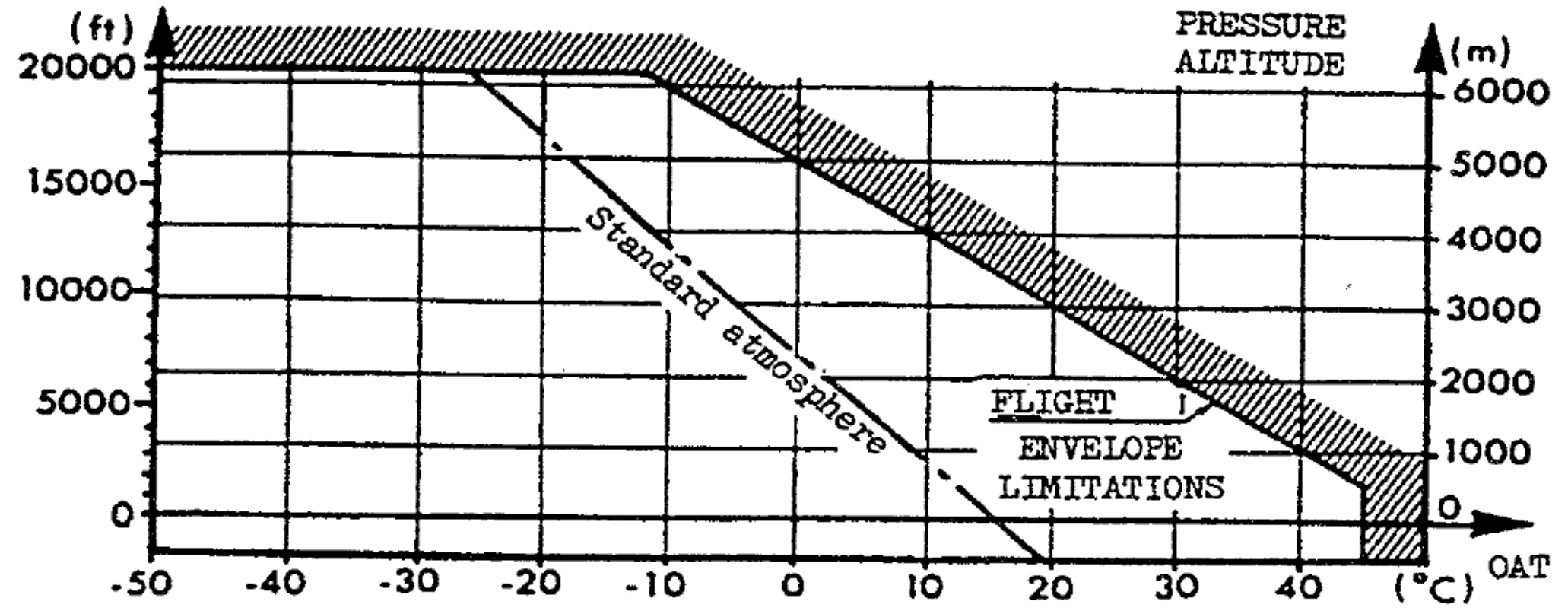
LOSS OF AIRSPEED

VERTICAL SPEED CLOSE TO 0

CAUTION PANEL – WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

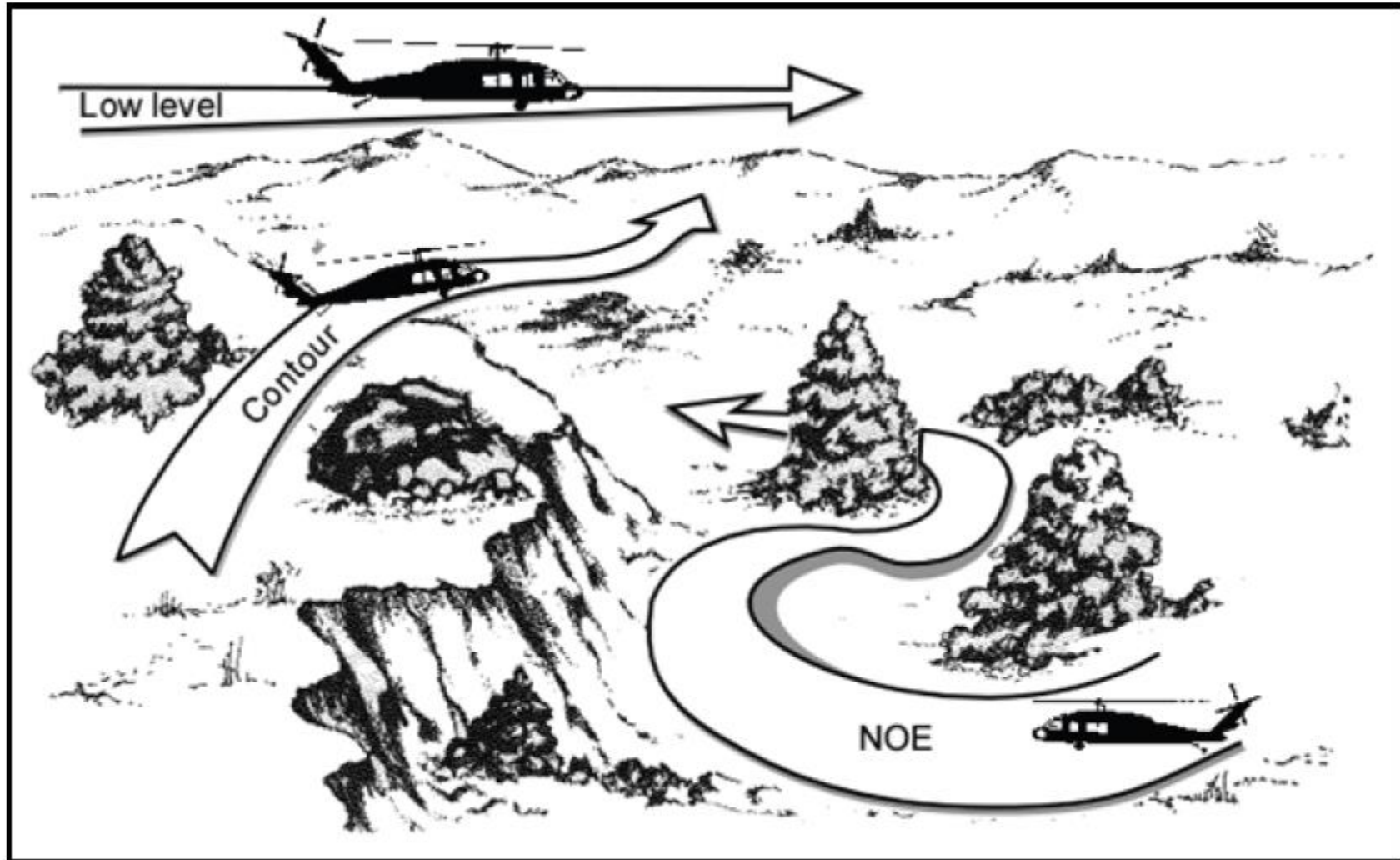
CAUTION PANEL	
H.MOT.	Turbine oil pressure drop
GENE	DD power supply system defective
PA	Main Autopilot (Pilote Automatique) switch OFF or Autopilot is in ALTITUDE mode and IAS is below 120 km/h
BPHY	Rotor RPM below 170
PITOT	Pitot Heat switch is OFF
H.BTP.	Main gear box oil pressure drop
ALTER.	AC power supply system defective
NAV	Failure of the AC power supply system – ADF is inoperative
LIM	When oil is dirty
H.RAL	Turbine RPM is below 15000
BAT.	Battery is isolated from DC network and is no longer charging
COMB	Usable fuel level below 50 litres
FILT.	Fuel filter beginning to be clogged

FLIGHT ENVELOPE LIMITATIONS

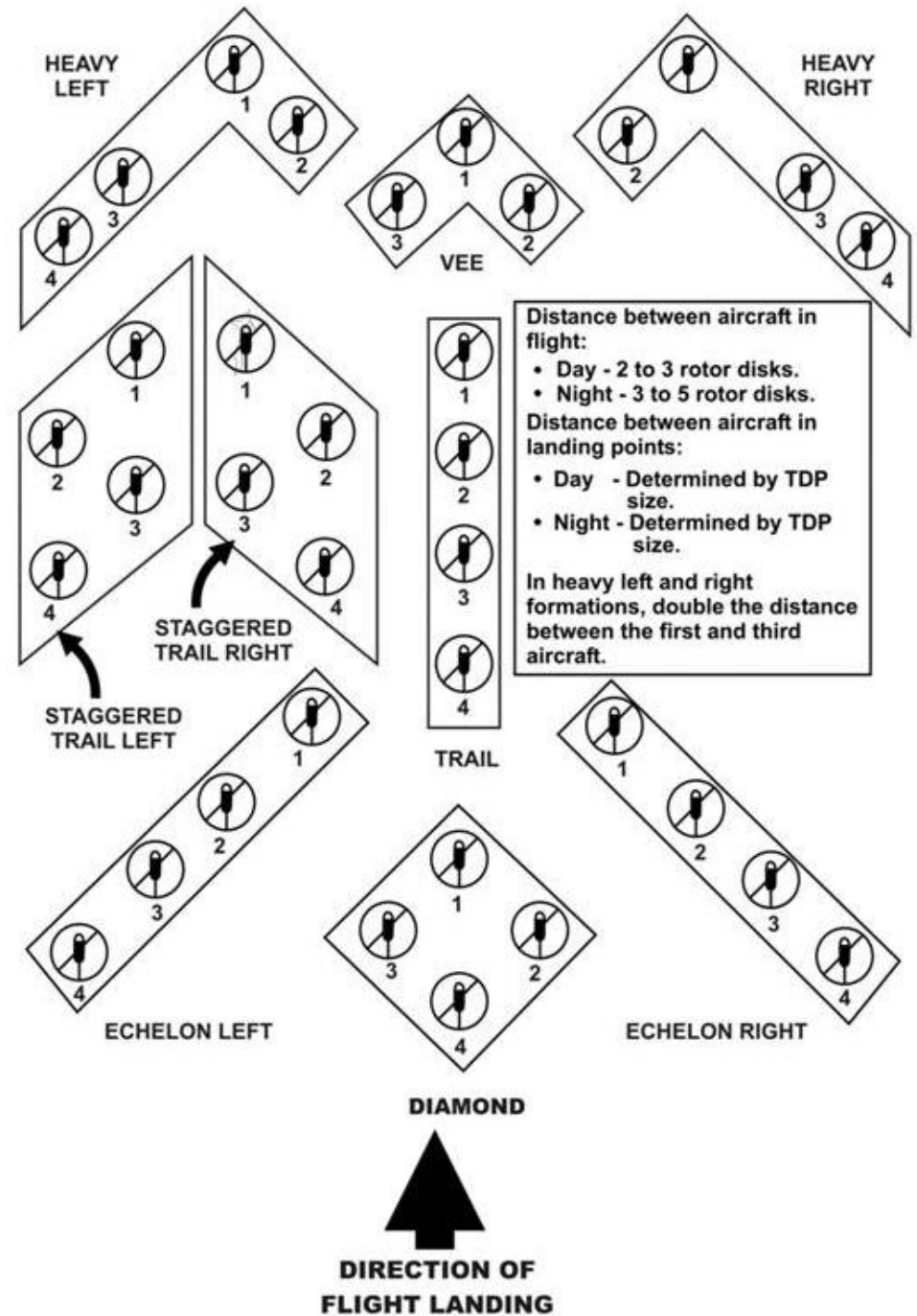
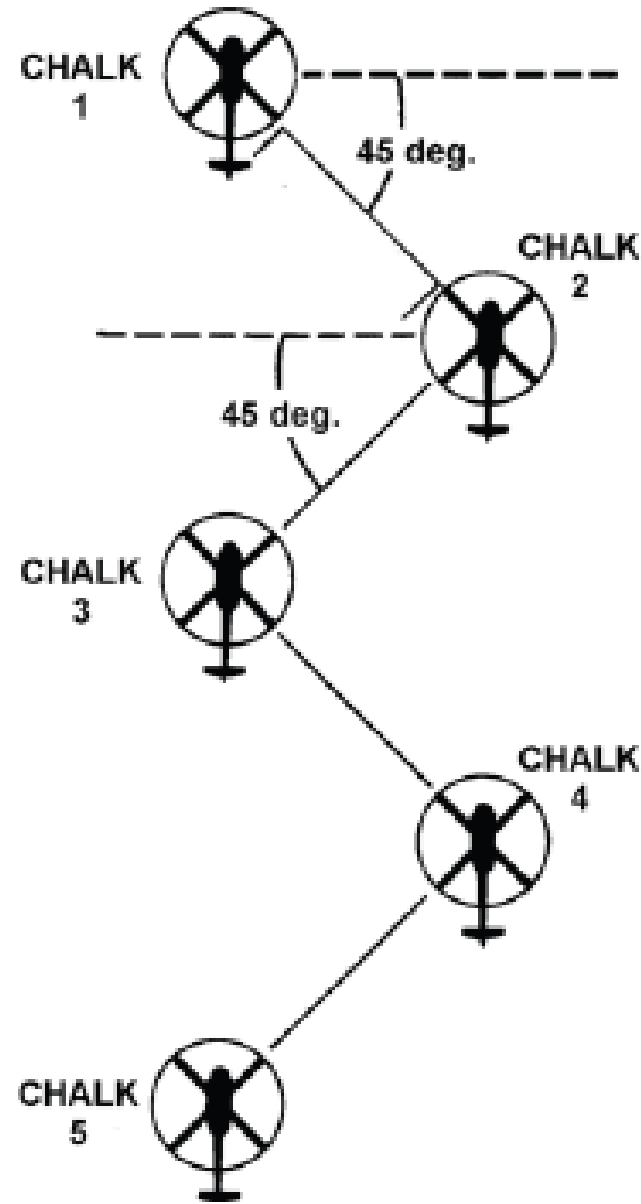


FLIGHT MODES

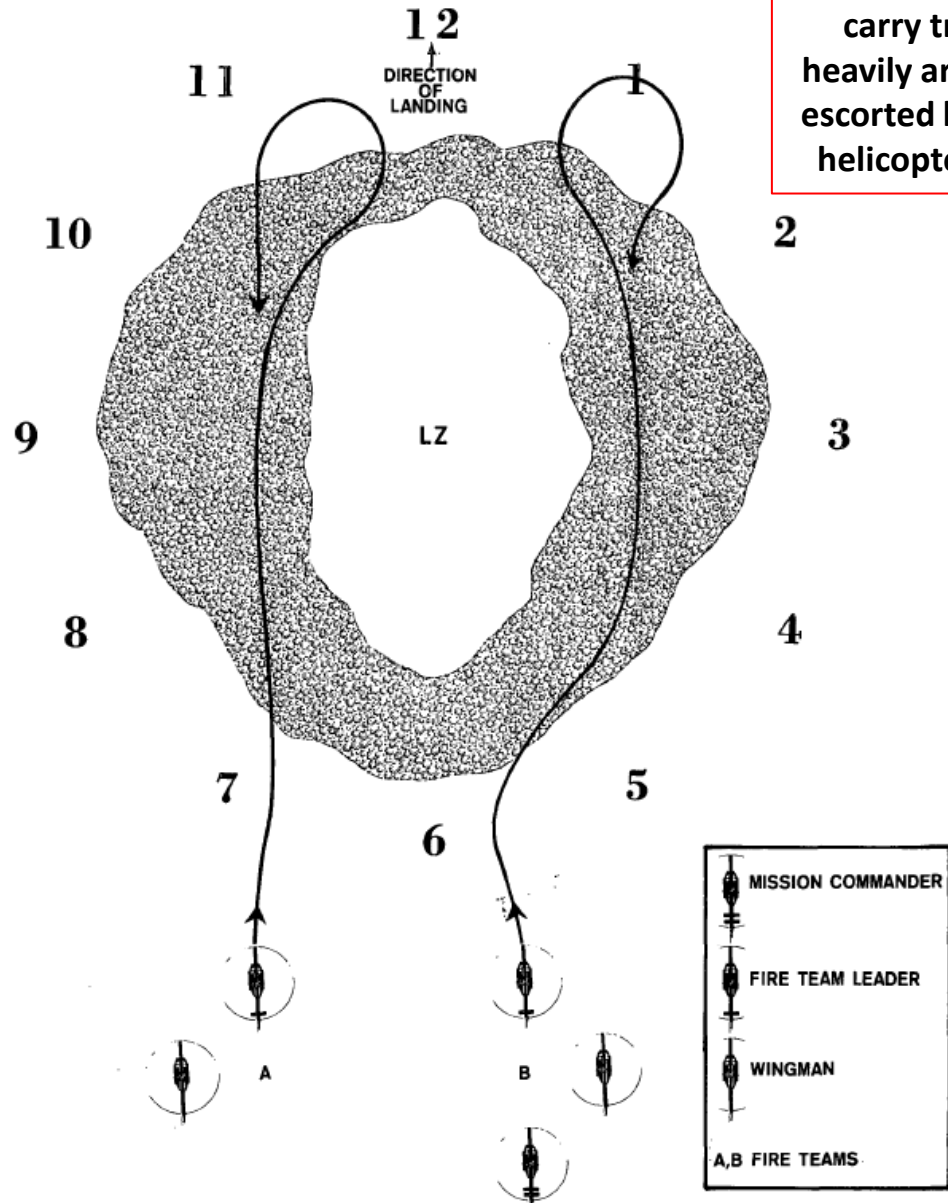
Mission planning is a crucial part of flying helicopters. Airmobile operations will often require you to drop troops at a designated LZ (landing zone) or to do ambush attacks on incoming tank columns. The flight path to reach this area of operations should be as safe as possible. The Gazelle can neither fly fast nor high, therefore his safest routes will often be as close to the ground as possible in order to avoid detection and use terrain to mask his approach. “NOE” is what pilots call “Nap-of-the-Earth”, a very low altitude flight mode done in a high-threat environment. NOE flying minimizes detection and vulnerability to enemy radar.



FORMATIONS



TROOP DEPLOYMENT



FIRE TEAM A IS RESPONSIBLE FOR LZ COVERAGE FROM 7 TO 1 O'CLOCK.
 FIRE TEAM B IS RESPONSIBLE FOR LZ COVERAGE FROM 6 TO 2 O'CLOCK.

aavn 784

Figure 26. Double orbit of the landing zone.

Transport helicopters are called "slicks". Since slicks carry troops and are not heavily armed, they are often escorted by gunships or scout helicopters like the Gazelle.

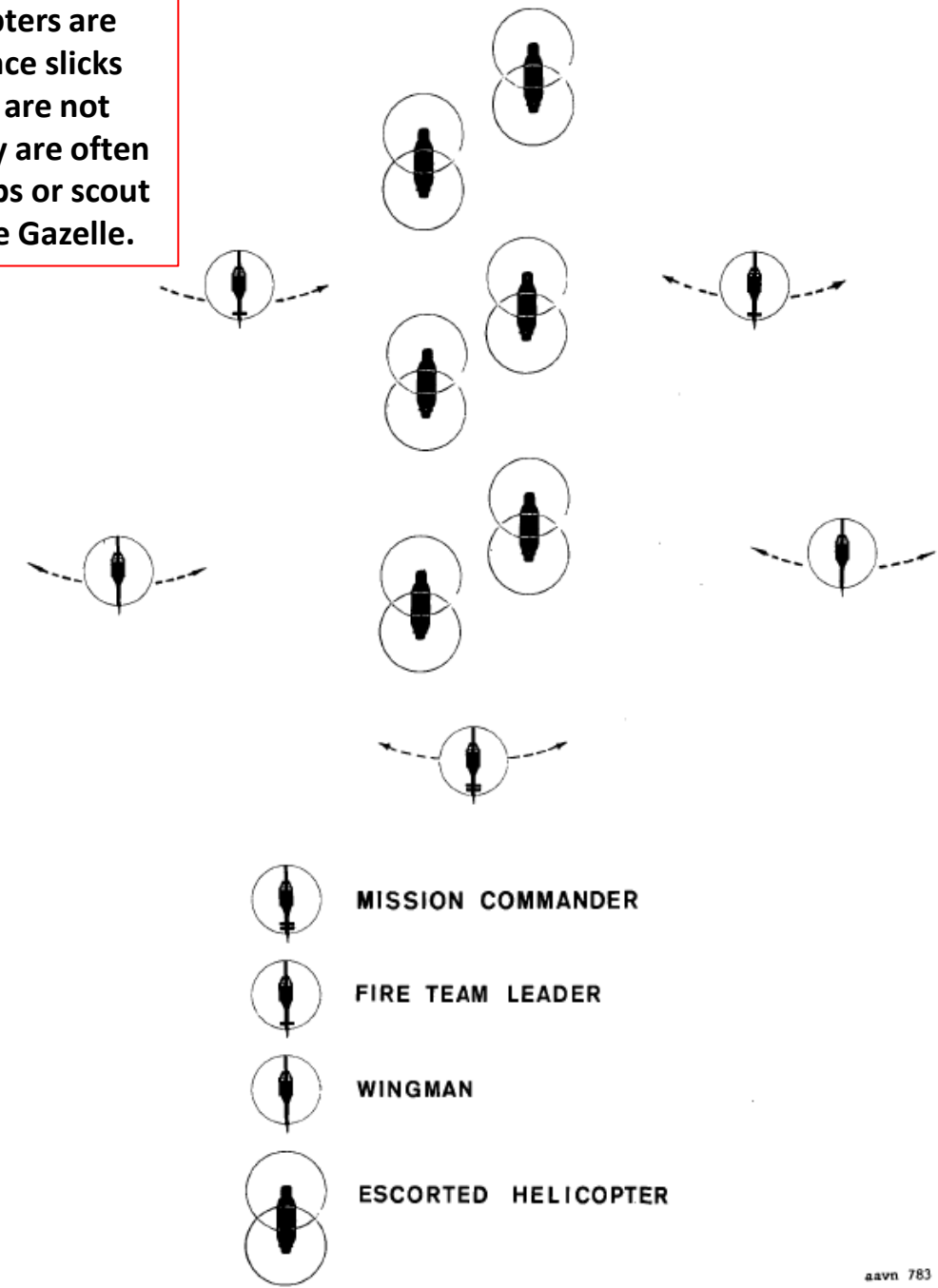


Figure 25. Escort formation at tree-top level or nap-of-the-earth.

aavn 783

ALWAYS PLAN YOUR APPROACH ROUTE CAREFULLY!
Use hills, buildings, trees... ANYTHING to avoid being detected.

TANKS ARE WATCHING YOU

FIRING POSITION

POTENTIAL ROUTE #1

POTENTIAL ROUTE #2

FIRING POSITION

FIRING POSITION

POTENTIAL ROUTE #3

FIRING POSITION

POTENTIAL ROUTE #4



GAZELLE MODEL VARIANTS: SA-342M VS SA-342L

There are a number of Gazelle variants. At the moment, the two main versions available are the SA-342M and L variants.

The **M** is equipped with an Astazou XIV M turboshaft engine and was intended mostly for the French ALAT (*Aviation Légère de l'Armée de Terre*, or Land Army Light Aviation). This variant is equipped with up to four HOT anti-tank missiles. Its Viviane camera allowed both day and night operations.

The **L** is a militarized version of the civilian SA-342J and is equipped with an Astazou XIV H turboshaft engine. It was built under license by the Yugoslavian aircraft manufacturer SOKO and the Arab British Helicopter Company (ABHCo). This variant is equipped with a 20 mm gun and a rocket pod. Its older Athos camera only allowed day operations.

The **MISTRAL** is a SA 342 L1 that was converted into an anti-air scout helicopter armed with four infrared AATCP (*Air-Air Très Courte Portée*, Air-to-Air Very Short Range) Mistral missiles build by MDBA. It is equipped with the same Athos camera used in the **L** variant.



WEAPON CONTROLS



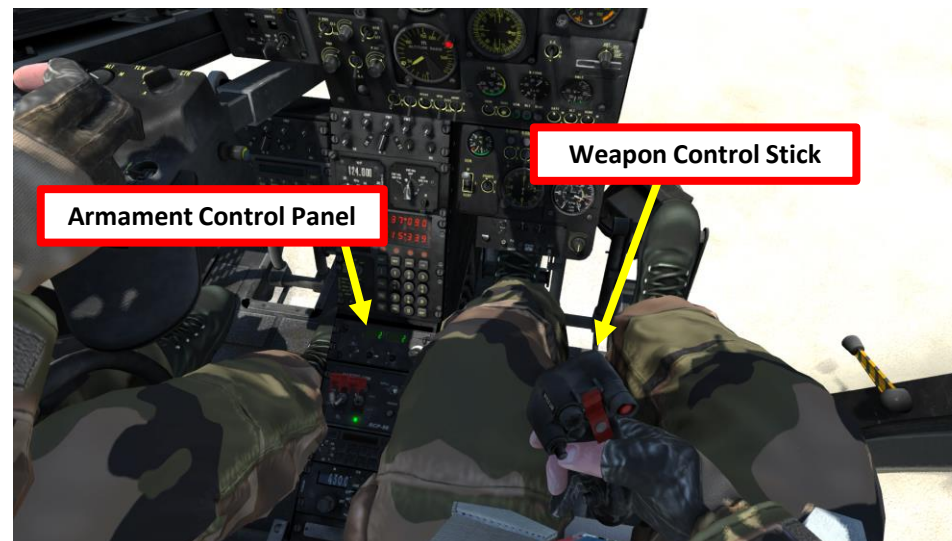
ARMAMENT OVERVIEW (SA-342L)

- The SA-342L Gazelle is equipped with a GIAT M621 20 mm gun (240 rounds) and a SNEB68 EAP Rocket pod, which are controlled by the pilot.
- Aiming is done manually.
- The Athos Sighting Camera is only used for reconnaissance. The Co-Pilot (Commander) has control over this TV and has a VCB (Video Control Box) at his disposal to find the target. The Weapon Control handle on the co-pilot's side is not functional in the SA-342L.



ARMAMENT OVERVIEW (SA-342 MISTRAL)

- The SA-342 MISTRAL Gazelle is equipped with four MBDA Mistral anti-air short-range heat-seeking missiles, which are controlled by the pilot only.
- Aiming is done manually.
- The Athos Sighting Camera is only used for reconnaissance. The Co-Pilot (Commander) has control over this TV and has a VCB (Video Control Box) at his disposal to find the target. The Weapon Control handle on the co-pilot's side is not functional in the SA-342 MISTRAL.

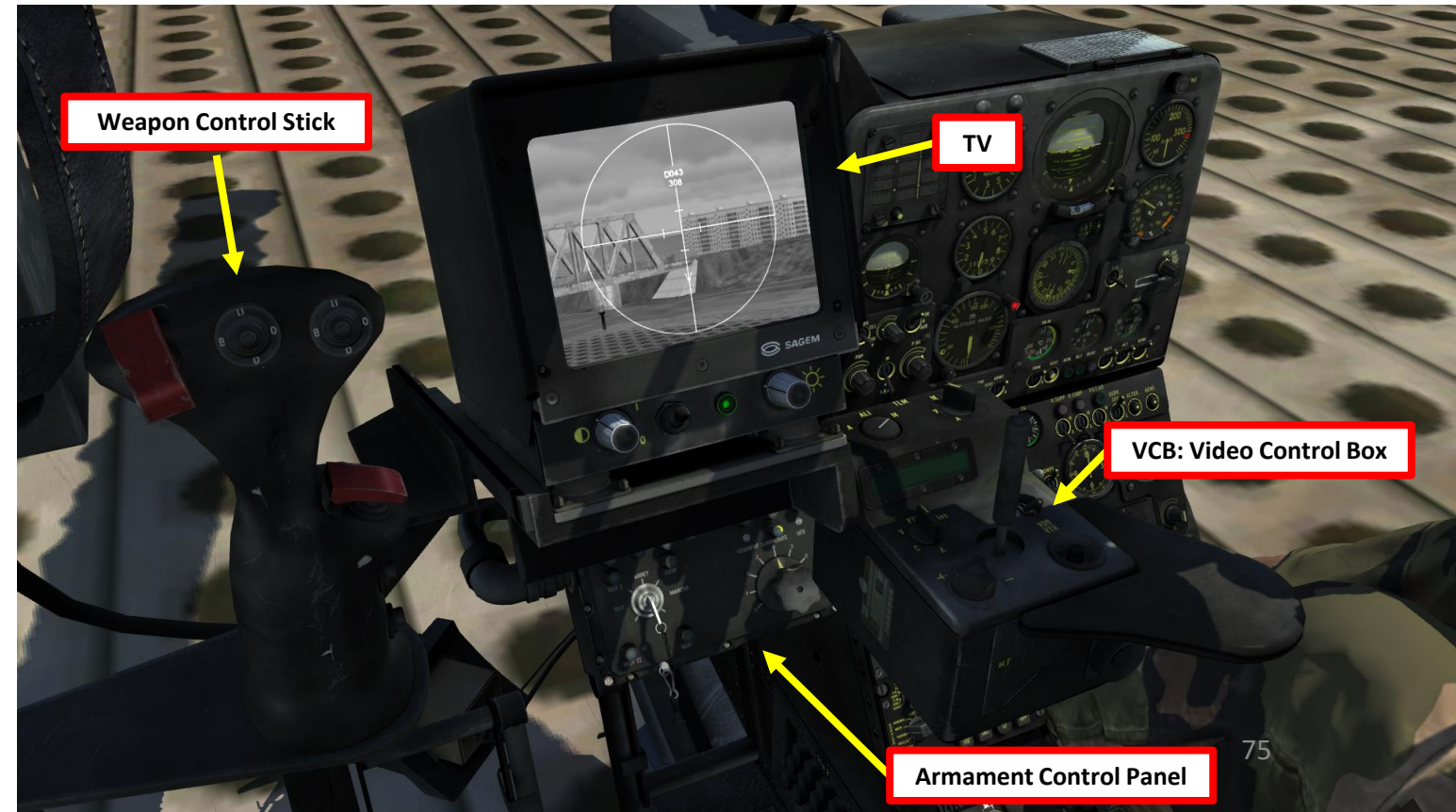
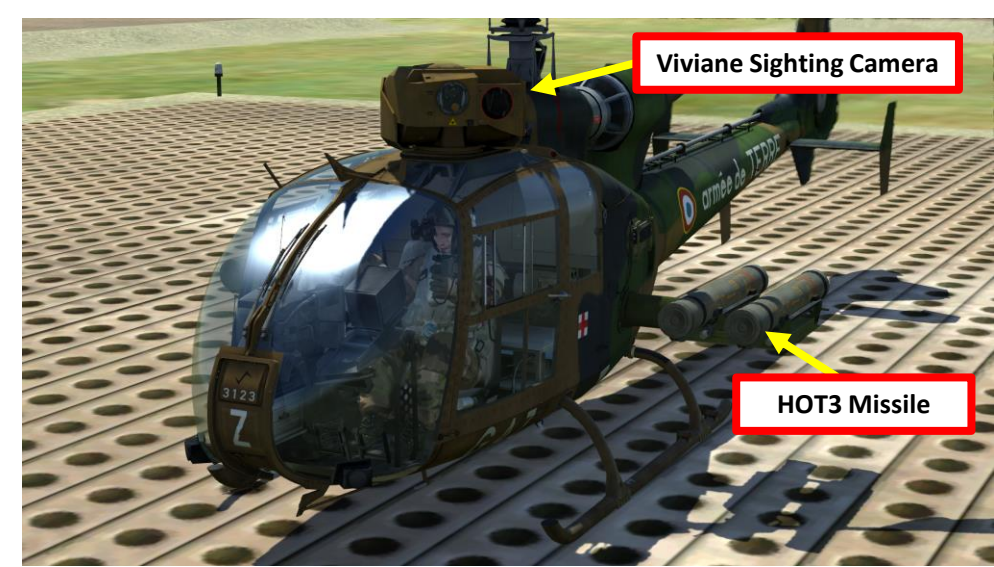


ARMAMENT OVERVIEW (SA-342M)

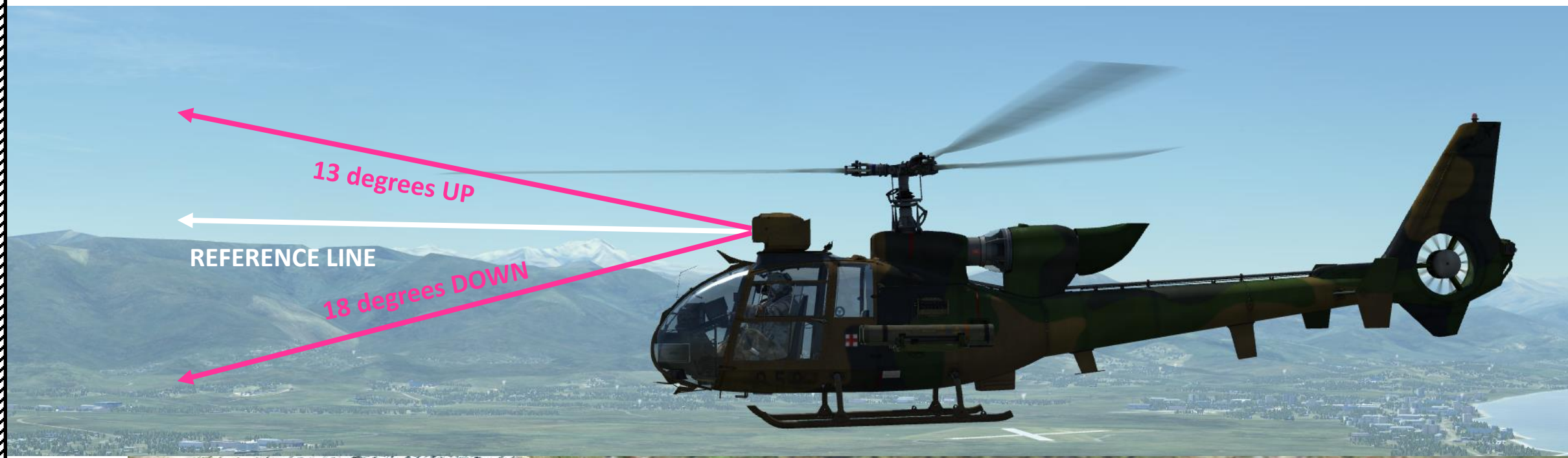
- The SA-342M Gazelle can be equipped with up to four HOT3 anti-tank missiles.
- These missiles are guided by the Viviane Sighting Camera.
- The Co-Pilot (Commander) has a TV, a weapon control stick and a VCB (Video Control Box) at his disposal to find the target, range it, lase it and launch a missile in its face.
- The following pages summarize how to prepare the Viviane system, how to operate it and how to use your missiles as efficiently as possible.

An missile launch procedure will generally go as follows:

- 1) Prepare TV equipment on the ground
- 2) Prepare missile equipment on the ground
- 3) Fly in the vicinity of target
- 4) Find a safe spot and engage auto-hover
- 5) Switch to co-pilot and find target using Viviane camera sight
- 6) Arm missile
- 7) Lase target (max range: 15 km)
- 8) Lock missile to laser designator
- 9) Launch missile (max range: 4.3 km)
- 10) Enjoy the fireworks



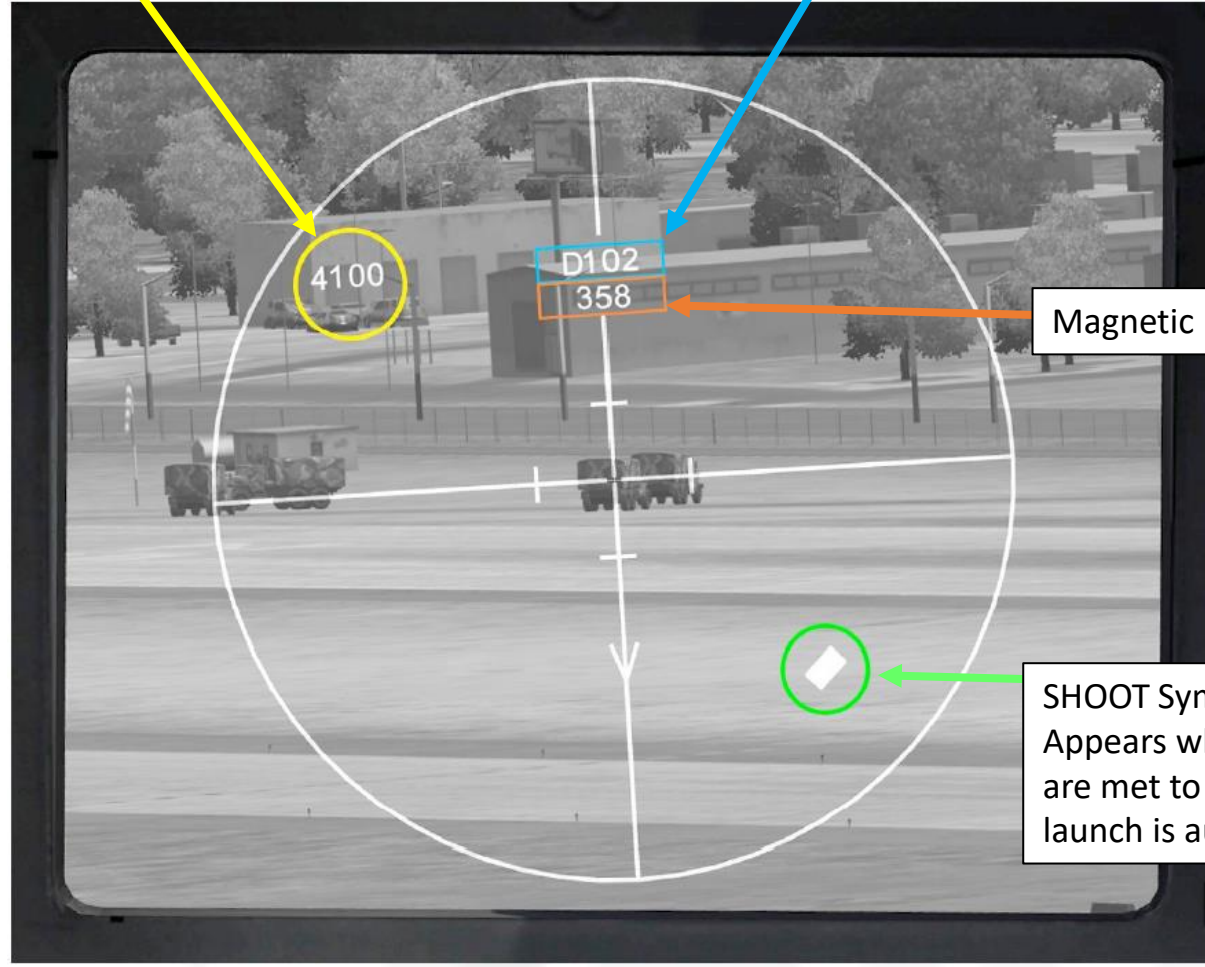
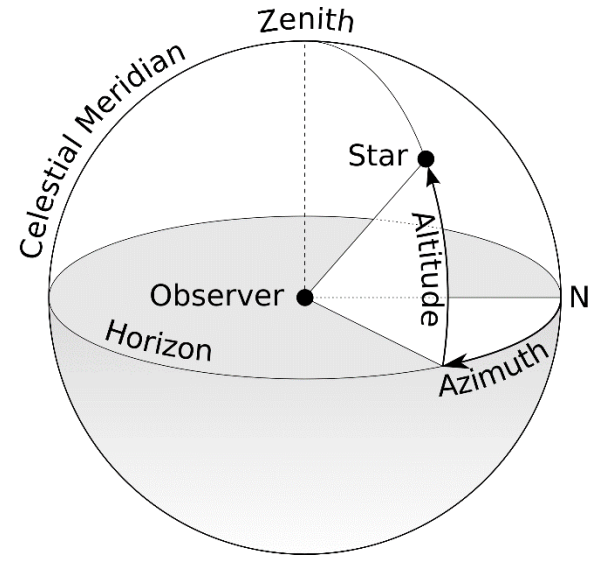
VIVIANE TV RANGE



VIVIANE TV SCREEN

Distance lased from Viviane Camera
4100 = 4100 m

Helicopter Azimuth from the Camera
D102 = Helicopter Azimuth is 102 degrees Right (*Droite*)
G102 = Helicopter Azimuth is 102 degrees Left (*Gauche*)

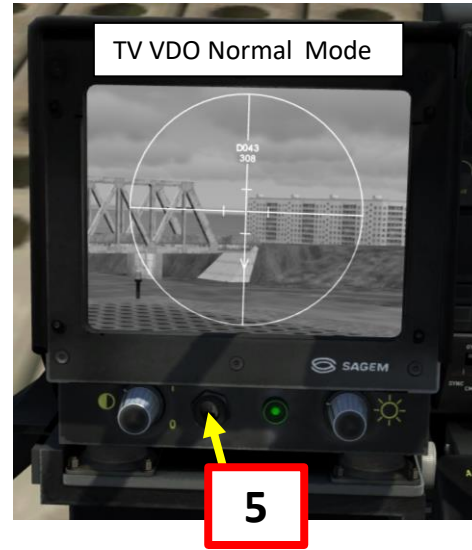


Magnetic Heading of Target

SHOOT Symbol
Appears when all conditions
are met to fire a missile and
launch is authorized

PREPARING ON THE GROUND

- 1) Set Weapon Arming Switch (**Armement**) to **MARCHE** (UP)
- 2) Set VDO (Vue Directe Optique) normal camera Power to **MARCHE**.
- 3) Set VTH (Voie Thermie) IR camera Power to **MARCHE**.
Note: IR camera will take 3 minutes to cool down, which is why it is more practical to do it on the ground and be ready as soon as possible.
- 4) Set Camera Mode to **PILOTE** (manual control mode)
- 5) Turn ON (UP) TV power switch.
- 6) Select VDO or VTH mode as required.
- 7) Flip up cover switch of laser designator button
- 8) Flip up cover switch of missile launch button
- 9) Select appropriate Black/White TV and Gunsight Modes.

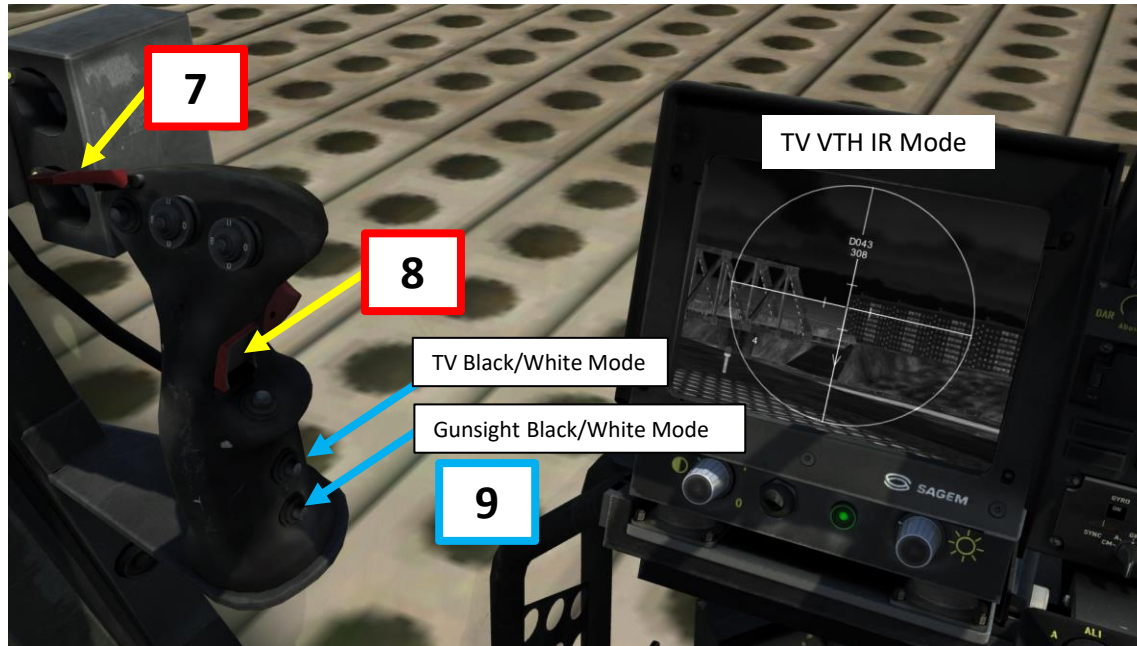


BVC Power Knob
A = **Arrêt** = OFF
ALI = **Alimentation** = Powered
M = **Marche** = ON

2

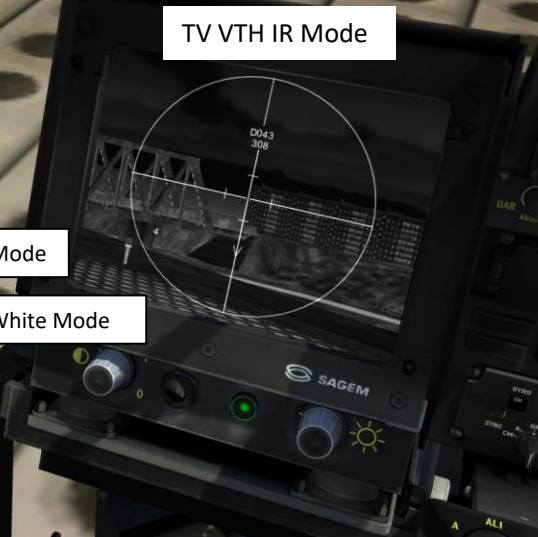


BCV IR Power Knob
A = **Arrêt** = OFF
V = **Veille** = Standby
M = **Marche** = ON



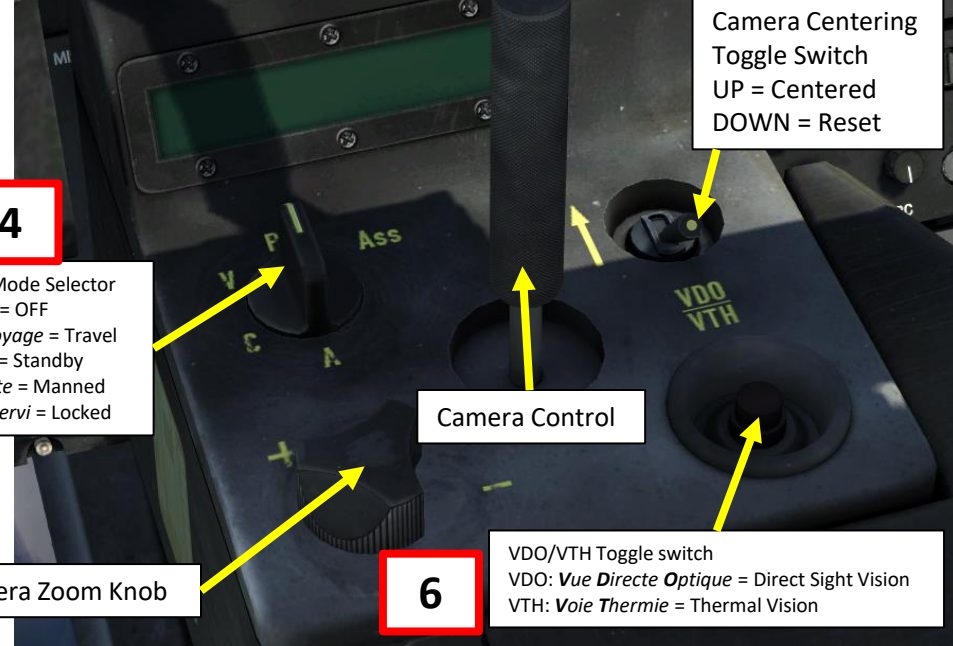
TV Black/White Mode

Gunsight Black/White Mode



Camera Mode Selector
A = **Arrêt** = OFF
C = **Convoyage** = Travel
V = **Veille** = Standby
PIL = **Pilote** = Manned
ASS = **Asservi** = Locked

4



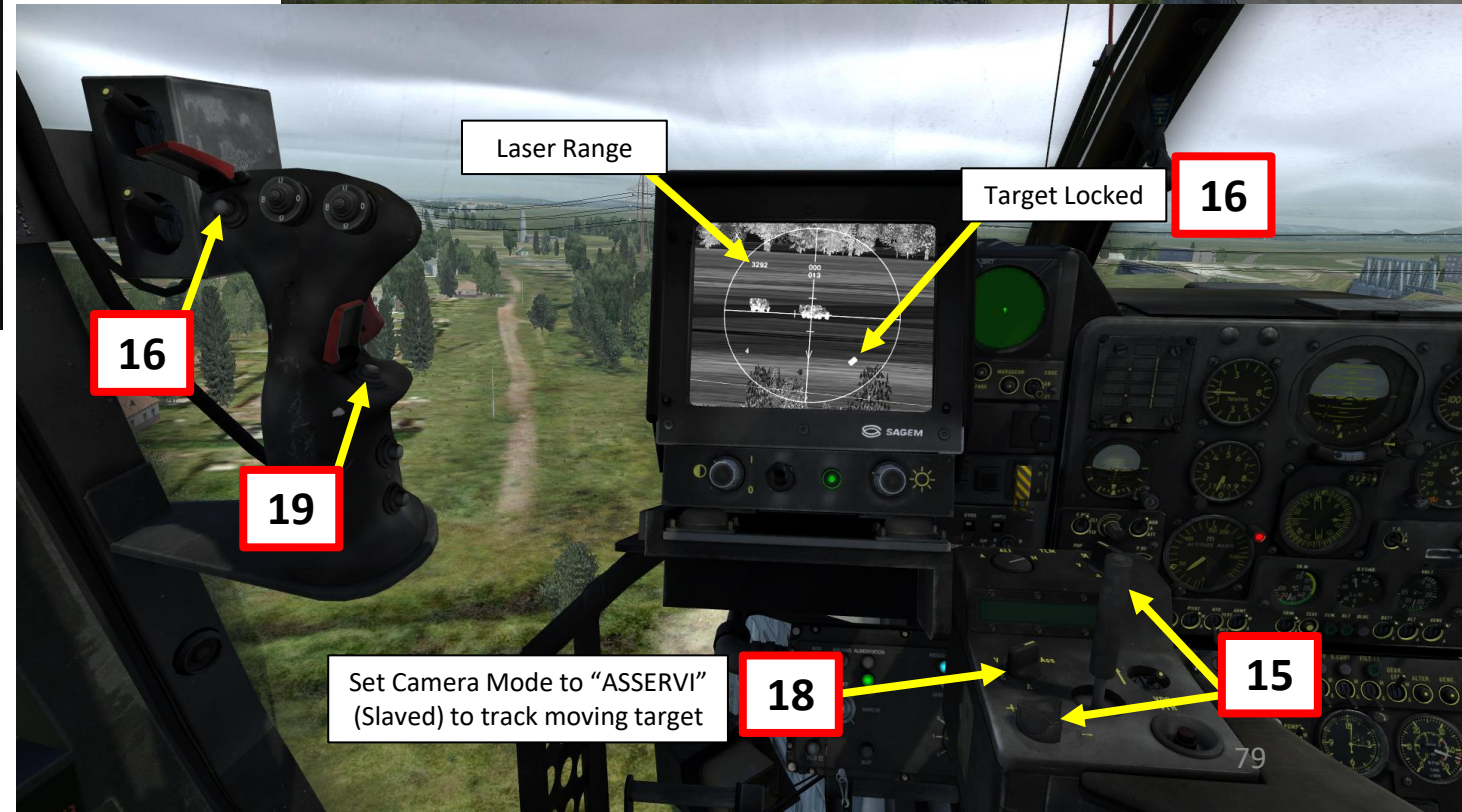
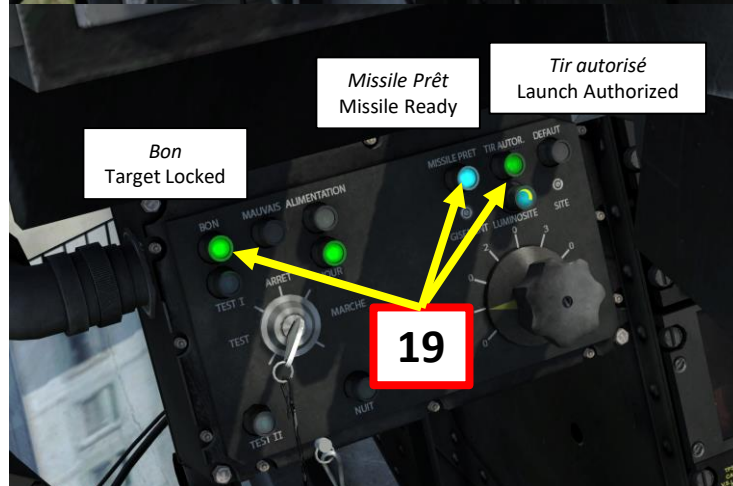
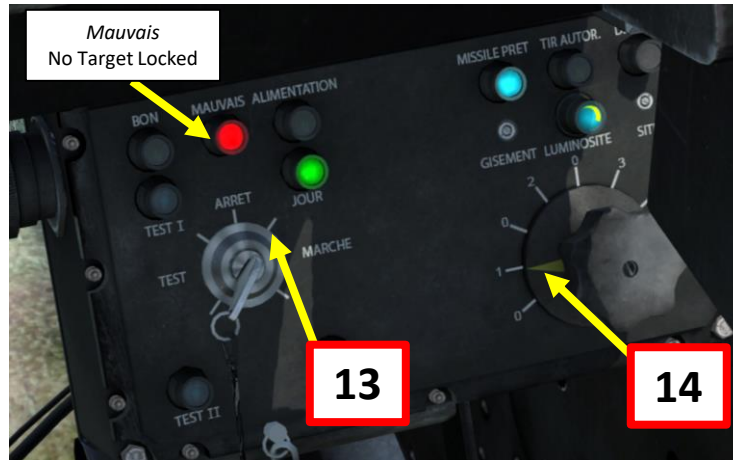
Camera Centering Toggle Switch
UP = Centered
DOWN = Reset

Camera Control

VDO/VTH Toggle switch
VDO: **Vue Directe Optique** = Direct Sight Vision
VTH: **Voie Thermie** = Thermal Vision

HOW TO USE HOT3 MISSILES (SA-342M)

- 10) Ensure all preparations on previous page are done.
- 11) Fly towards target and come to a hover from a concealed and safe position.
- 12) Engage auto-hover as explained in the AUTOPILOT & TRIM section.
- 13) Turn weapon key to either JOUR (Day) or NUIT (Night).
- 14) Select desired HOT3 station (1/2/3/4 = stations, 0 = safety)
- 15) Use TV slew controls (;, . /) and Zoom knob (= -) to find desired target.
- 16) Lase target to lock it and range it. A white rectangle will appear.
- 17) Press “Auto-Slave Toggle” (“E”) on pilot’s stick to automatically steer the helicopter to the slaved target you just lased.
- 18) Optional: set Camera to “ASS” (**A**sservi = Slaved) to track target with camera.
- 19) If all launch parameters are met (range under 4300 m + target lased), missile launch is authorized (BON/OK lamp illuminated). Press “Missile Launch” button (Space).



HOW TO USE HOT3 MISSILES (SA-342M)

Tips & Tricks:

- Your missiles are very heavy. If you fire one and disengage auto-hover immediately, the helicopter will be increasingly difficult to stabilize since it will be unbalanced. I suggest that you fire two missiles (1 from each side) before disengaging auto-hover so you remain balanced.
- Tanks are quite deadly, even at your maximum missile range. Proceed with extreme caution.
- Concealment and surprise are key if you are to survive your missile launch. Use them to your advantage.
- Make sure you study the terrain carefully before going into position. Flying low at tree-top level is a must if you want to avoid detection.

The following conditions need to be met to have a valid HOT3 firing solution:

- One missile must be selected
- The relative angle between the camera and the aircraft nose must be between G003 and D003 (3 degrees left or right)
- Master Arm switch must be ON
- Weapon Key must be on « MARCHE » (ON) position



HOW TO USE THE MACHINEGUN (SA-342L)

- 1) Set Weapon Arming Switch (*Armement*) to **MARCHE** (UP)
- 2) Set Armament Panel Power switch to **MARCHE** (MIDDLE position)
- 3) Flip up safety cover and set right pylon MASTER ARM switch to ARM (FWD)
- 4) Click on gunsight to deploy it.
- 5) Press the “FIRE GUNS OR ROCKETS” button on your cyclic to fire guns.

Note: If both right and left pylon switches are armed simultaneously, the guns will take precedence (meaning that the FIRE GUNS button will fire guns only).



HOW TO USE ROCKETS (SA-342L)

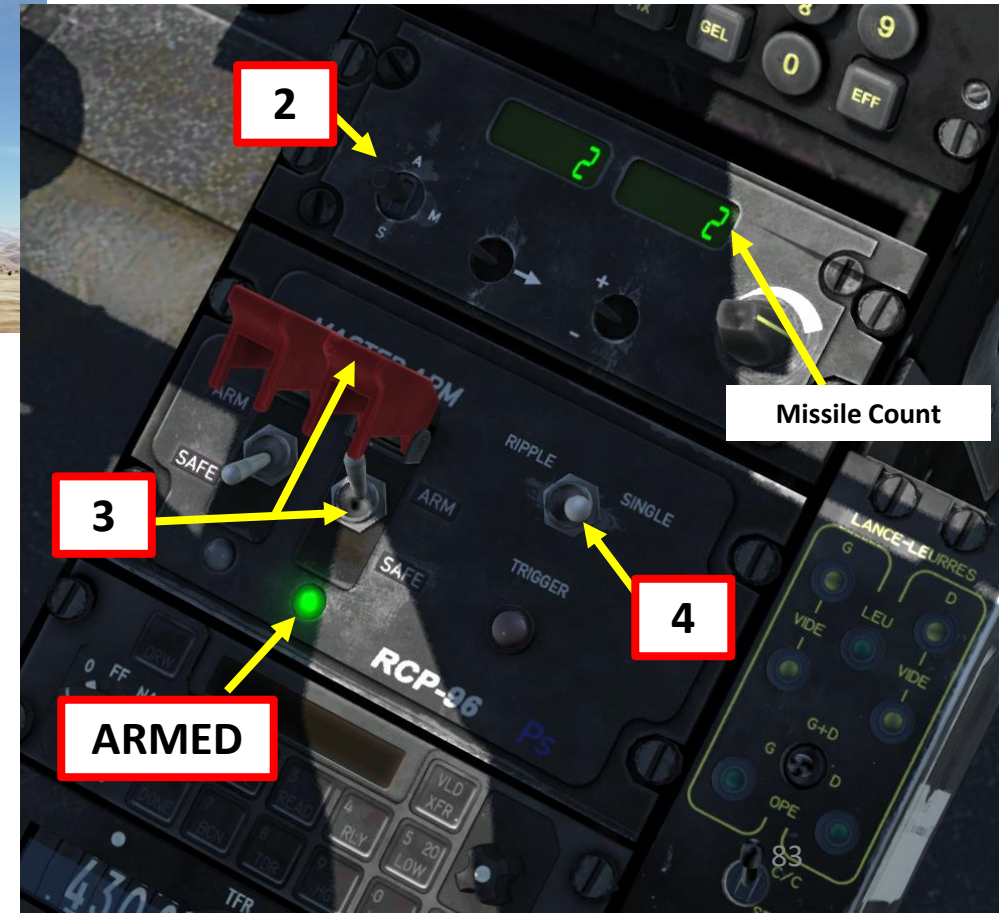
- 1) Set Weapon Arming Switch (*Armement*) to *MARCHE* (UP)
- 2) Set Armament Panel Power switch to *MARCHE* (MIDDLE position)
- 3) Flip up safety cover and set left pylon MASTER ARM switch to ARM (FWD)
- 4) Select RIPPLE or SINGLE rocket firing mode
- 5) Click on gunsight to deploy it.
- 6) Press the “FIRE GUNS OR ROCKETS” button on your cyclic to fire guns.

Note: If both right and left pylon switches are armed simultaneously, the guns will take precedence (meaning that the FIRE GUNS button will fire guns only).



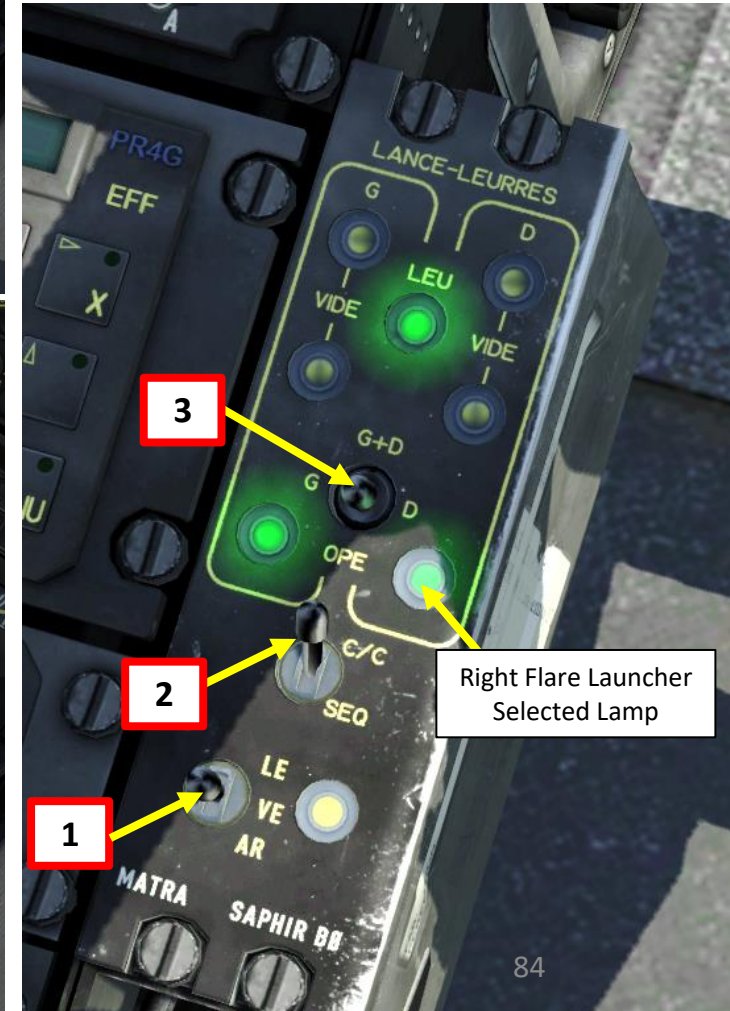
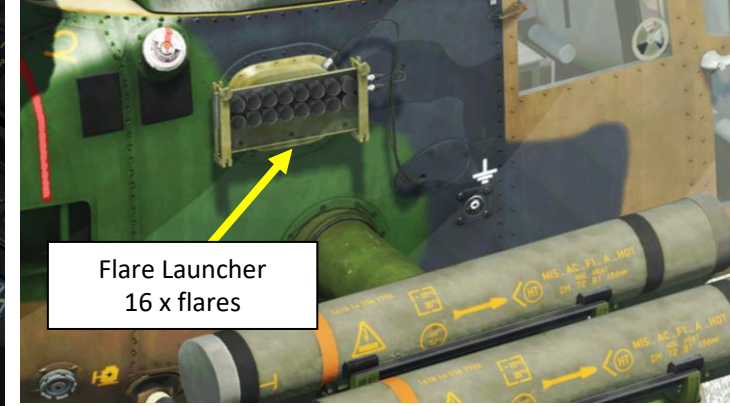
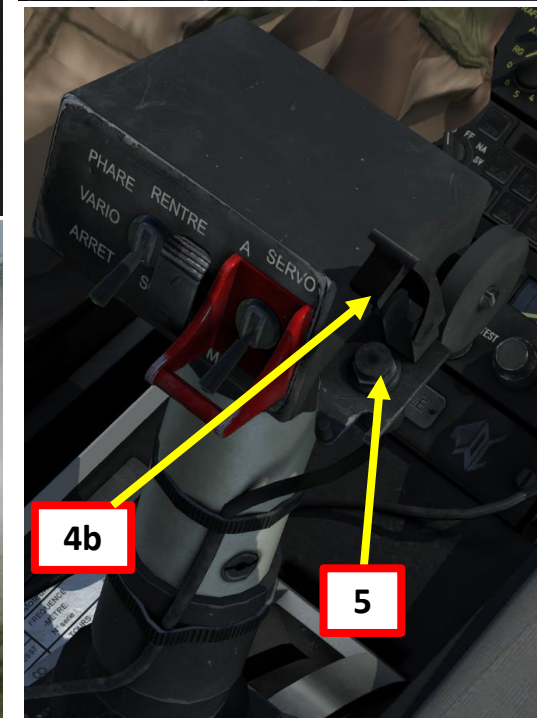
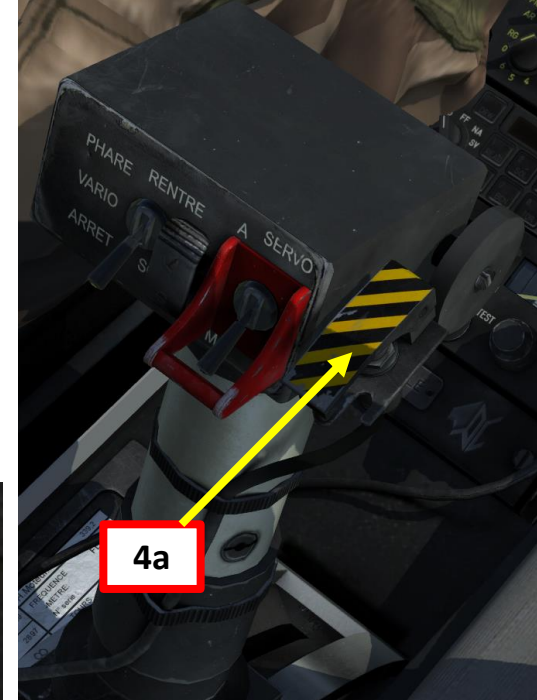
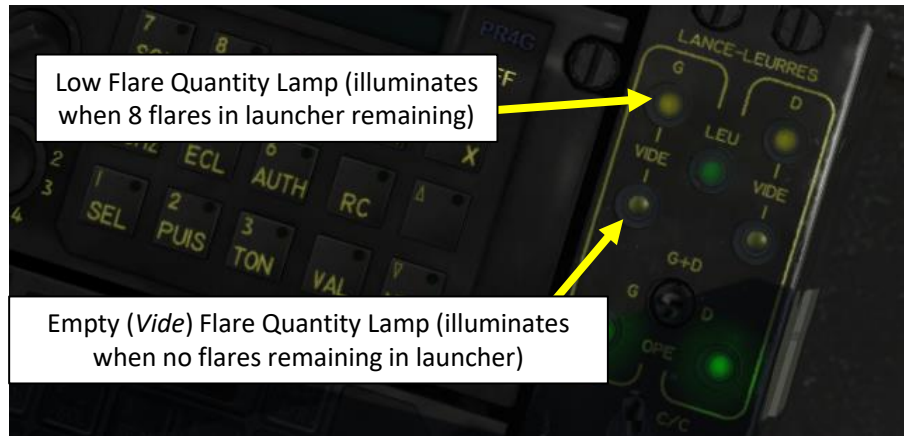
HOW TO USE MISTRAL AIR-TO-AIR MISSILES (SA-342 MISTRAL)

- 1) Set Weapon Arming Switch (*Armement*) to **MARCHE** (UP)
- 2) Set Armament Panel Power switch to **MARCHE** (MIDDLE position)
- 3) Flip up safety cover and set left pylon MASTER ARM switch to ARM (FWD)
- 4) Select SINGLE missile firing mode
- 5) Click on gunsight to deploy it.
- 6) Once you hear a high-pitched missile lock tone, press the “FIRE GUNS OR ROCKETS” button on your cyclic to fire guns once . Typical firing ranges are at about 0.5 nm.



HOW TO DEPLOY FLARES

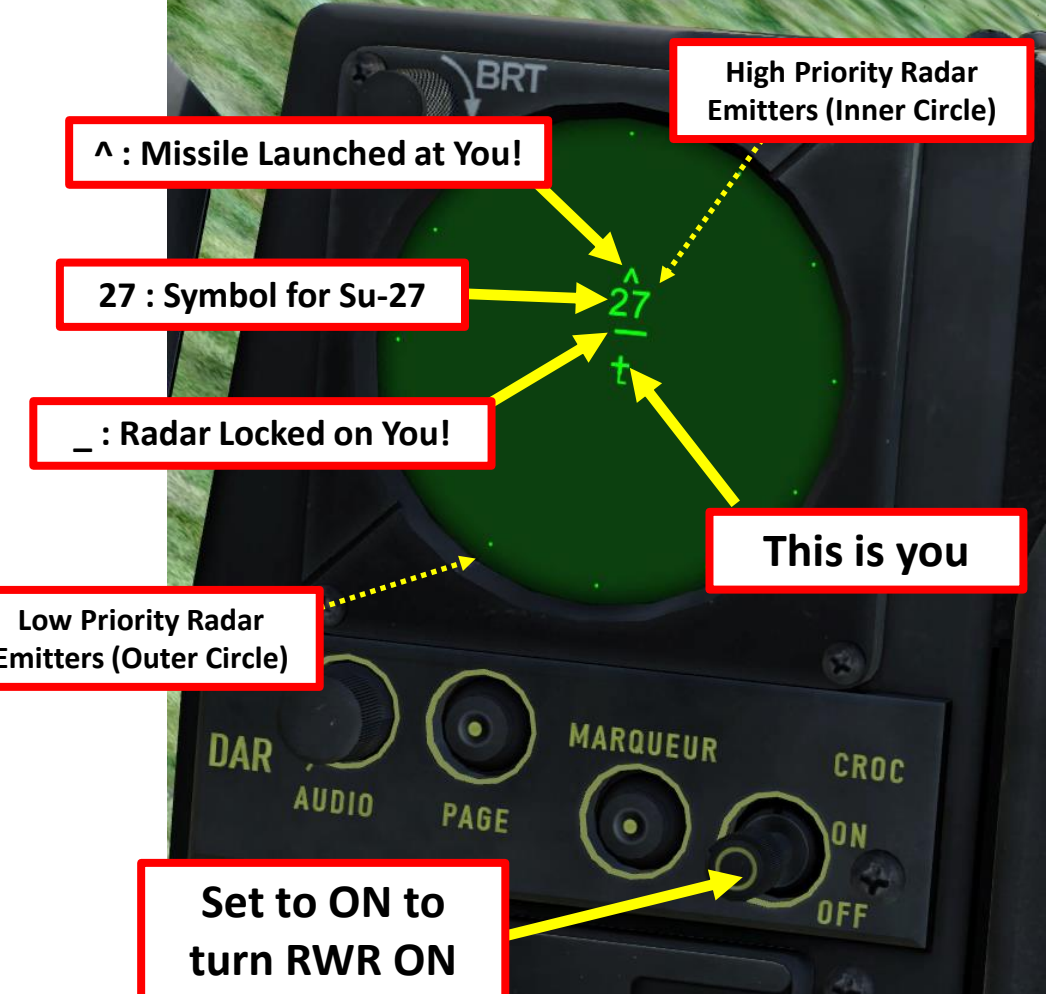
- 1) Set your Flare Dispenser (*Lance-Leurres*) power switch to either LE (*Lent* = Slow) or VE (*Vite* = Fast)
- 2) Set your Flare Dispenser Launch Quantity to either C/C (Single) or SEQ (Sequence).
- 3) Select Flare Dispenser (G = Gauche = Left, D = Droite = Right, G+D = BOTH)
- 4) Flare Dispenser Cover Switch - UP
- 5) Press the "Start Dispensing" button ("Insert" key) to launch flares.



DRAX33 RWR – RADAR WARNING RECEIVER

AIR UNITS	Symbol	Meaning	Symbol	Meaning
	14	F-14	21	MiG-21
	15	F-15	23	MiG-23
	16	F-16	25	MiG-25
	18	F-18	27	Su-27
	F2	Tornado	29	MiG-29
	F5	F-5	30	Su-30
	M2	Mirage 2000	31	MiG-31
	C1	C-101	33	Su-33
	86	F-86	34	Su-34
	E2	E-2	50	A-50
	E3	E-3		

GROUND UNITS	Symbol	Meaning	Symbol	Meaning
	S	EWR, KP, SA	DE	Dog Ear
	BB	S-300PS	RO	Roland
	SD	BUK	PT	Patriot
	06	KUB	HK/HA	Hawk
	R-15	Tor	S6	Tunguska
	A	Shilka, Gepard, Vulcan		

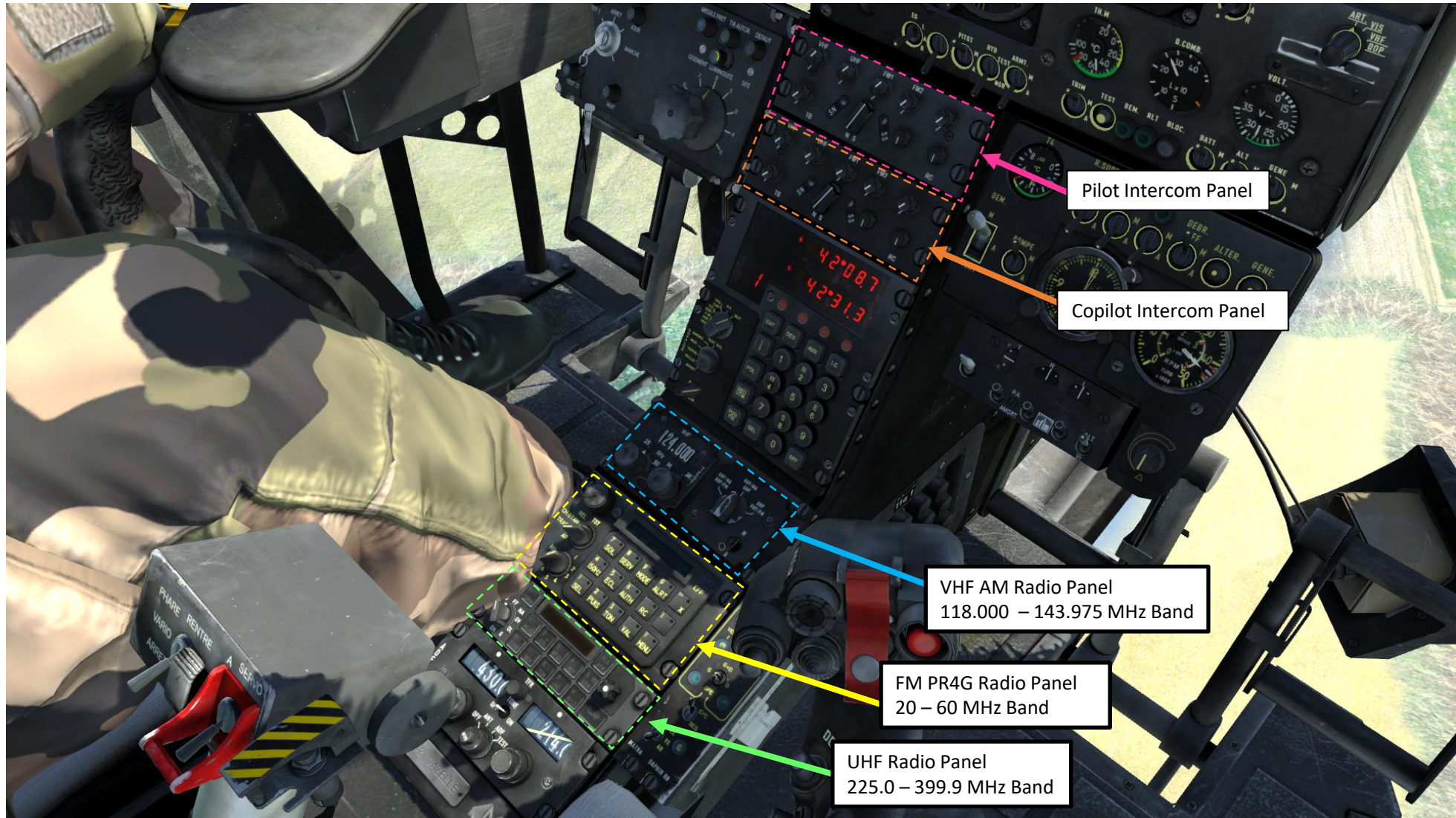


SHIPS	Symbol	Meaning	Symbol	Meaning
	SW	Kuznetsov	HP	Albatros
	48	Vinson	TP	Rezky, Neutrashimy
	T2	Moscow	PS	Molniya
	49	Perry	HN	Skory
	AE	Ticonteroga	U	Unknown

You have three radios on your central console.

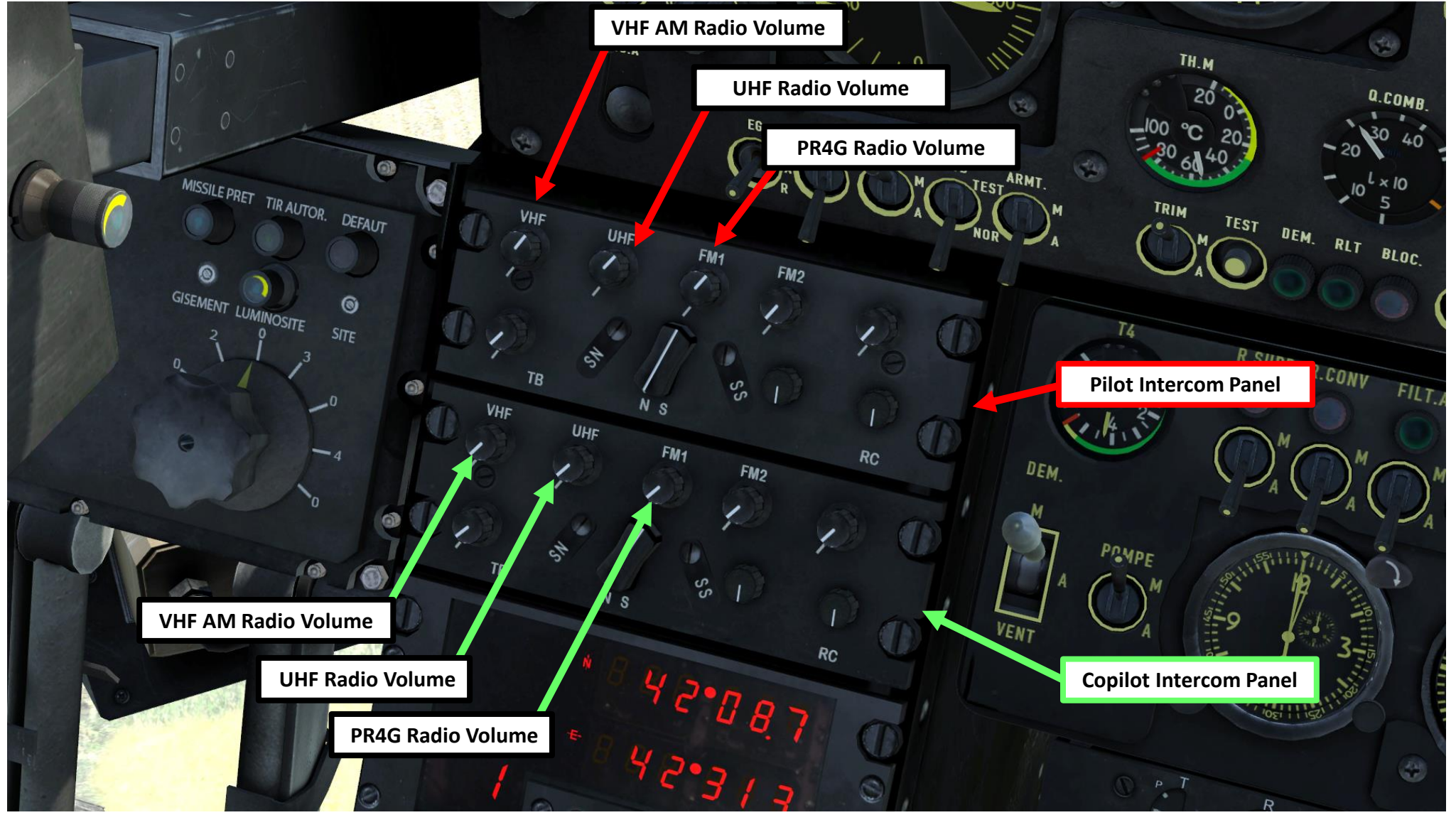
- The UHF radio set is used for Air-to-Air primary communications.
- The VHF AM radio set is used for Air-to-Air alternate communications (and tower).
- The FM radio set is used for internal flight communications between crew members.
- The Pilot and Copilot Intercom Panels allow you to control the volume of various radio sets.

Most of the time, you will only be using the UHF radio since in DCS you don't really need to communicate with your other crew member.



Intercom Panel

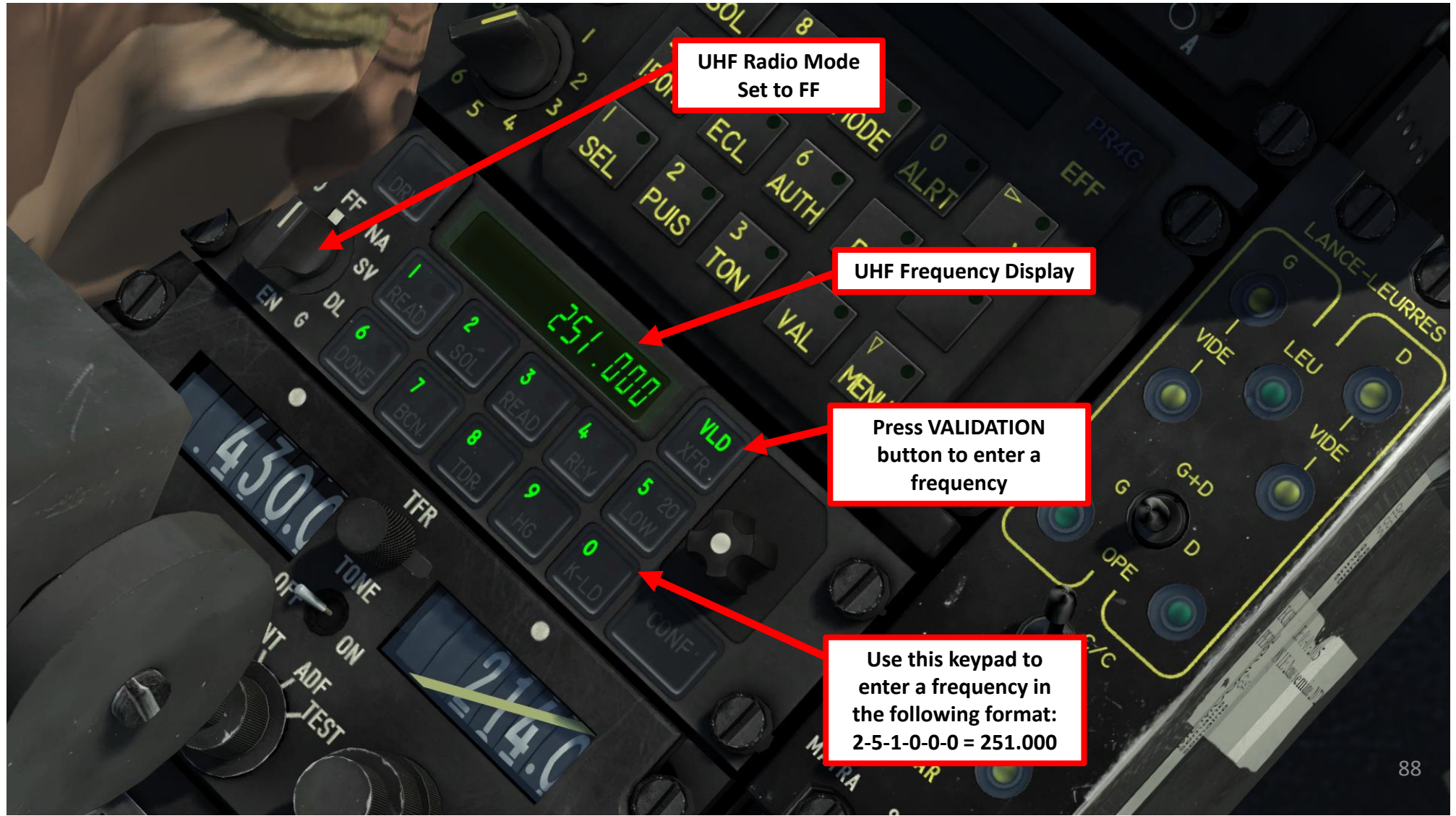
The intercom panel allows you to set the volume for each radio.



UHF Radio Set Panel

UHF Radio Panel
225.0 – 399.9 MHz Band

- Turn ON UHF radio set by setting the Power knob to FF.
- Change Frequency by setting the frequency in the format described below and by pressing VLD (Validation) button.
- Transmit by pressing “/”



VHF AM Radio Set Panel

VHF AM Radio Panel
118.000 – 143.975 MHz Band

- Turn ON VHF AM radio set by setting the Power knob to **MARCHE** (ON).
- Transmit by pressing “/”

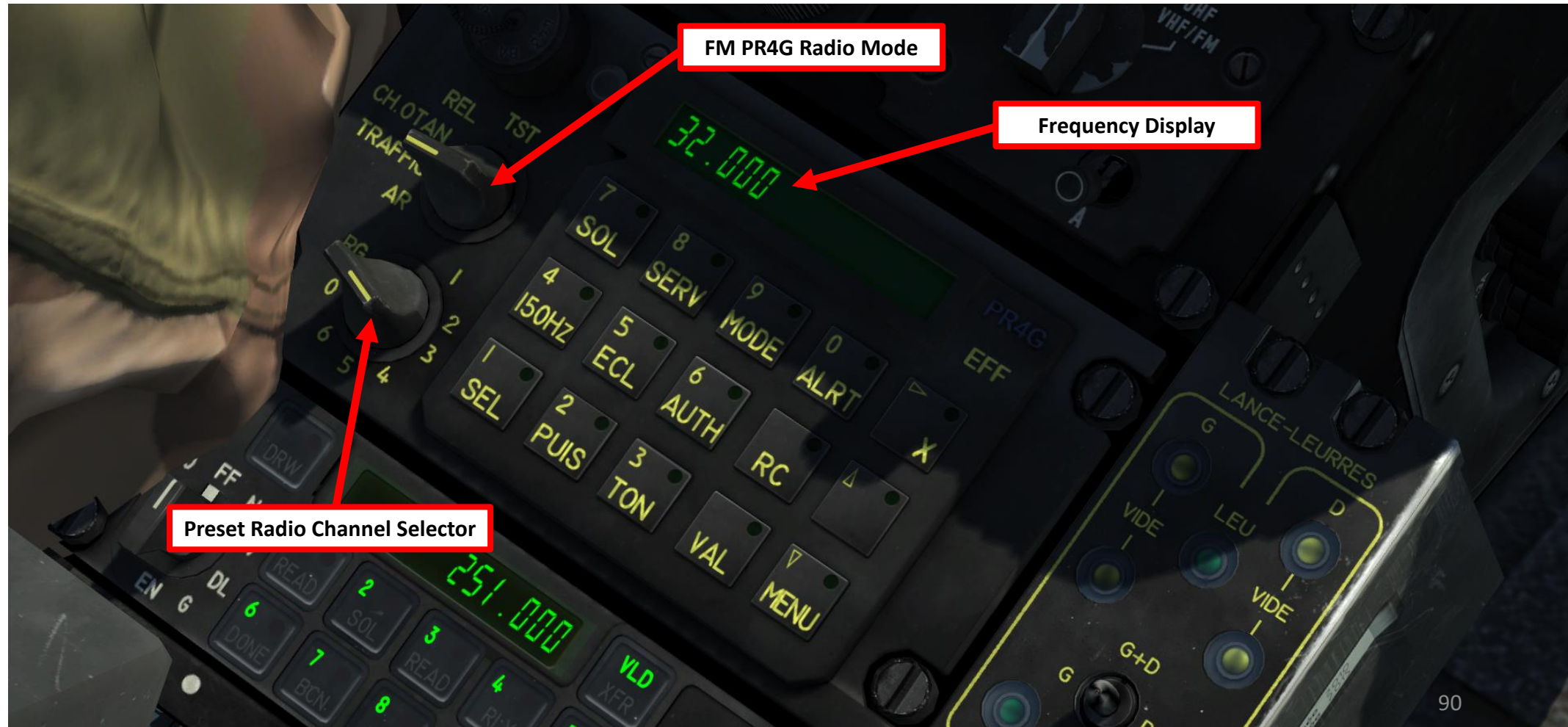


FM PR4G Radio Set Panel

FM PR4G Radio Panel
20 – 60 MHz Band

At the moment, the PR4G radio functionalities are classified and simplified in DCS. At the moment, the only frequencies you can use are the PRESET frequencies defined throughout the mission editor. At the moment, frequencies cannot be entered manually.

- Set the FM radio mode to TRAFFIC.
- Select which preset channel you want to transmit on.
- Transmit by pressing “/”



RADIO FREQUENCIES – AIRFIELDS

LOCATION	FREQUENCY
Anapa	121.0
Batumi	131.0
Beslan	141.0
Gelendzhik	126.0
Gudauta	130.0
Kobuleti	133.0
Kutaisi	134.0
Krasnodar Center	122.0
Krasnodar Pashkovsky	128.0
Krymsk	124.0
Maykop	125.0
Mineral'nye Vody	135.0
Mozdok	137.0
Nalchik	136.0
Novorossiysk	123.0
Senaki	132.0
Sochi	127.0
Soganlug	139.0
Sukhumi	129.0
Tblisi	138.0
Vaziani	140.0

NAVIGATION TUTORIAL STRUCTURE

The navigation tutorial chapter will be divided in the two following sub-sections:

I – INTRODUCTION TO NAVIGATION

II – NADIR INTRODUCTION

III – NADIR NAVIGATION TUTORIAL

IV – NDB AND VOR STATIONS – HOW TO FIND THEM?

V – ADF SYSTEM TUTORIAL

NADIR Tutorials by John

Part 0 - Overview: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6HDRPoeppWY>

Part 1 - Introduction: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SZuJg_M82uE

Part 2 –Navigation: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tz4Y4qJTxvk>

Part 3 - Handling Waypoints: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tcZTqb-gCoE>

Part 4 –Other Functionalities: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AtdARMcRuqE>

ADF Tutorial by Bunyap

Tutorial - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0gz26R9Qg0Y>

I - INTRODUCTION TO RADIO NAVIGATION

Navigation is an extensive subject. You can check chapter 15 of FAA manual for more details on navigation.

LINK: http://www.faa.gov/regulations_policies/handbooks_manuals/aviation/pilot_handbook/media/PHAK%20-%20Chapter%2015.pdf

- “NDB” is what we call a non-directional beacon. It transmits radio waves on a certain frequency on long distances. These waves are read by an ADF (automatic direction finder). NDBs are typically used for radio navigation.
- “VOR” is what we call a VHF Omnidirectional Range system. It transmits radio waves on a certain frequency. These waves are read by a VOR receiver. VOR systems, just like NDBs, can be used for radio navigation.
- NDB and VOR are used just like lighthouses were used to guide ships. This way, air corridors and airways are created to help control an increasingly crowded sky.
- The Gazelle can navigate using the following equipment:
 - **ADF radio set (ADF panel):** you can track NDB (non-directional beacons), which are scattered throughout the map. The ADF will give you a direction to follow, but not a range.
 - **NADIR navigation set (NADIR panel):** you can track (manually entered) waypoints with the NADIR, which will give you a direction AND a range to follow. The NADIR system is an integrated navigation system that provides information coming from a Doppler sensor, gyros, airspeed sensors, etc. The NADIR can stock a total of 9 waypoints. However, you can modify them as you please.

II - INTRODUCTION TO THE NADIR SYSTEM

Note: If a mission editor has an ounce of common sense and feels merciful, your waypoints will already be “preloaded” in your NADIR if this option is ticked in your SPECIAL OPTIONS tab.

To start the NADIR:

- 1) Set the NADIR Mode to VEILLE (Standby) and the NADIR Parameter to BUT (Waypoint). An automated test will run.
- 2) AIR will disappear after 40 s, PANNE and ERR NAV will disappear after 70 s.
- 3) Set NADIR Mode to TERRE (Ground).
- 4) Once NADIR is started, we can select what we want to monitor.



II - INTRODUCTION TO THE NADIR SYSTEM

Wind Direction (deg) → 325

Wind Speed (km/h) → 18

NADIR Parameter
Vent = Wind

Magnetic Heading (deg) → 30

Magnetic Declination (deg) → 5.59

NADIR Parameter
CM DEC = Magnetic Heading - Declination

Doppler Radar Ground Speed (km/h) → 0

Deviation Angle → 44

NADIR Parameter
VS DER = Vitesse Sol = Ground Speed - Deviation

Heading to active waypoint (deg) → 35

Calculated time (minutes) to reach waypoint
If 999999: Helicopter Stationary → 999 999

NADIR Parameter
Temps Cap = Calculated Time - Heading

Latitude in deg of current position (North/South) → 41.364

Longitude in deg of current position (West/East) → 41.358

NADIR Parameter
PP = Position Présente = Current Position

Latitude in deg of active waypoint (North/South) → 41.374

Longitude in deg of active waypoint (West/East) → 41.372

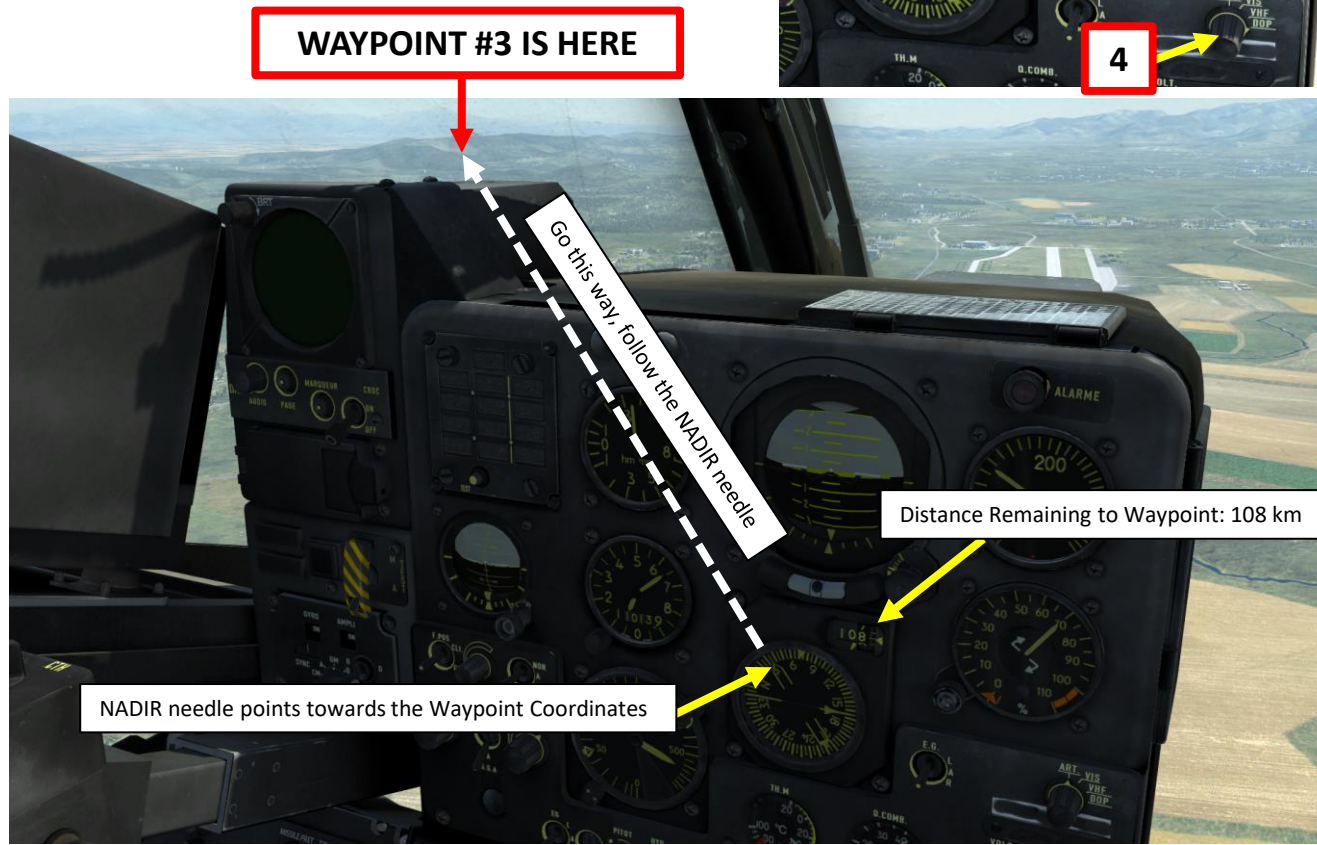
Waypoint Number → 1

NADIR Parameter
BUT = Waypoint

III – NADIR SYSTEM TUTORIAL

TUTORIAL 1 – HOW TO SELECT AND TRACK A BUT (WAYPOINT)

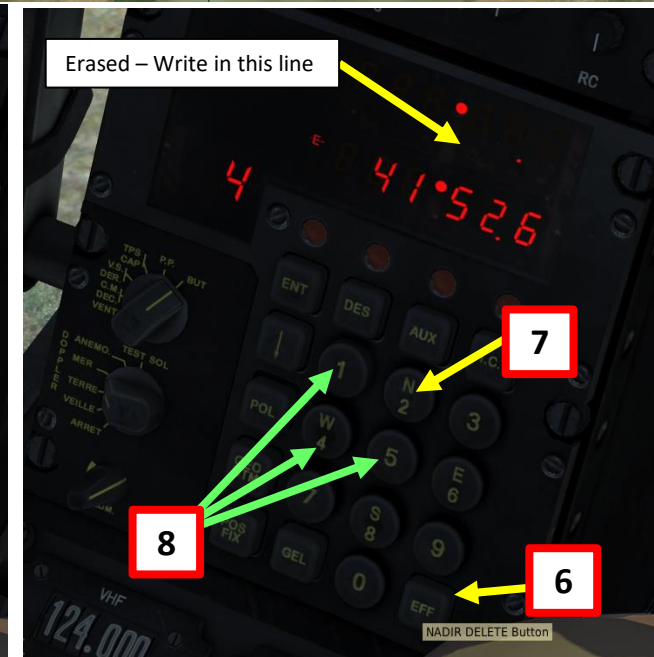
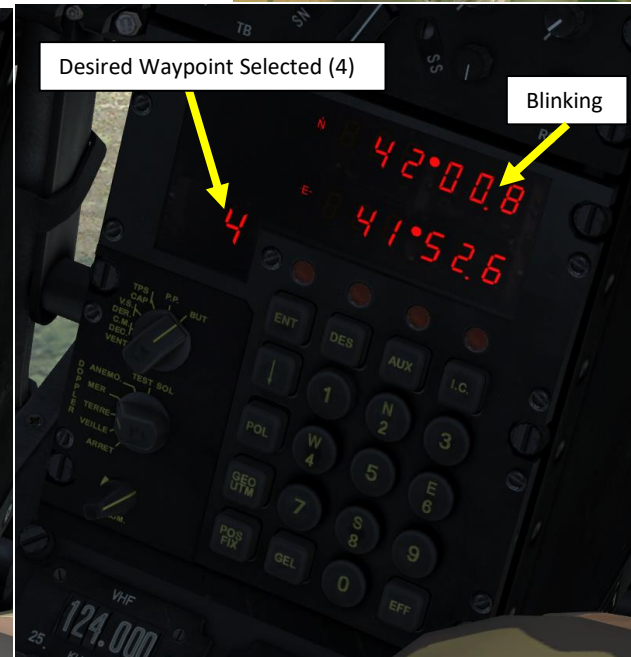
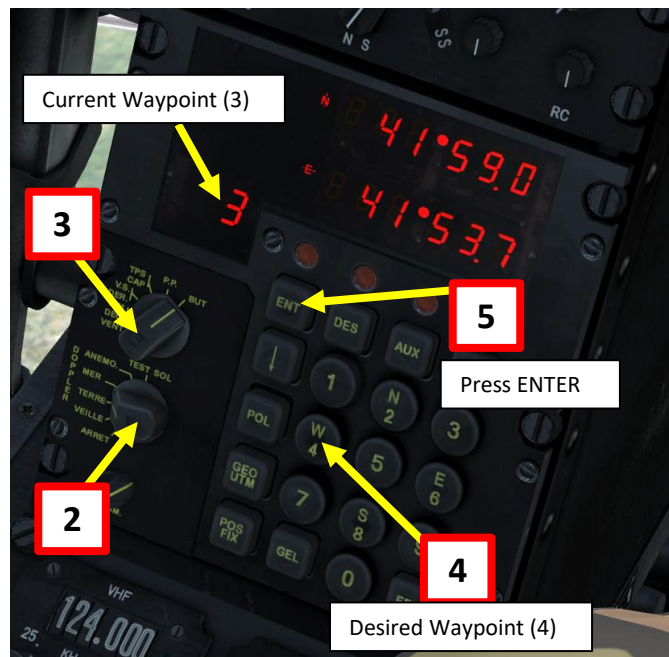
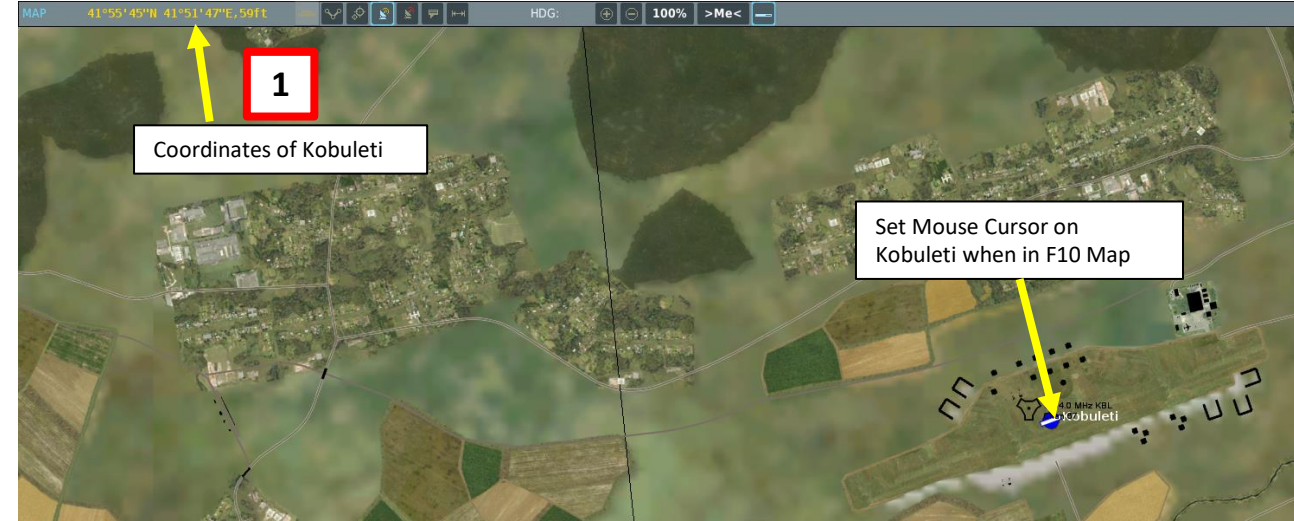
- 1) Select TERRE (Ground) NADIR Mode.
- 2) Select BUT (Waypoint) NADIR Parameter.
- 3) Select Waypoint Number on the keyboard.
- 4) Follow pointy end of NADIR needle on NADIR indicator.
- 5) Optional: Set ADI (Attitude Director Indicator) mode to “DOPPLER” to track the signal on the ADI as well.



III – NADIR SYSTEM TUTORIAL

TUTORIAL 2 – HOW TO CREATE AND TRACK A BUT (WAYPOINT)

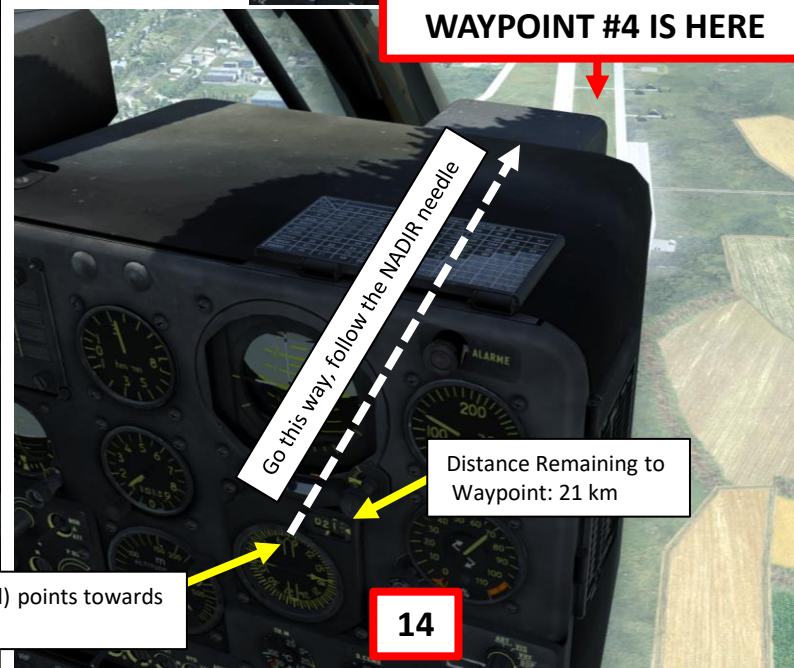
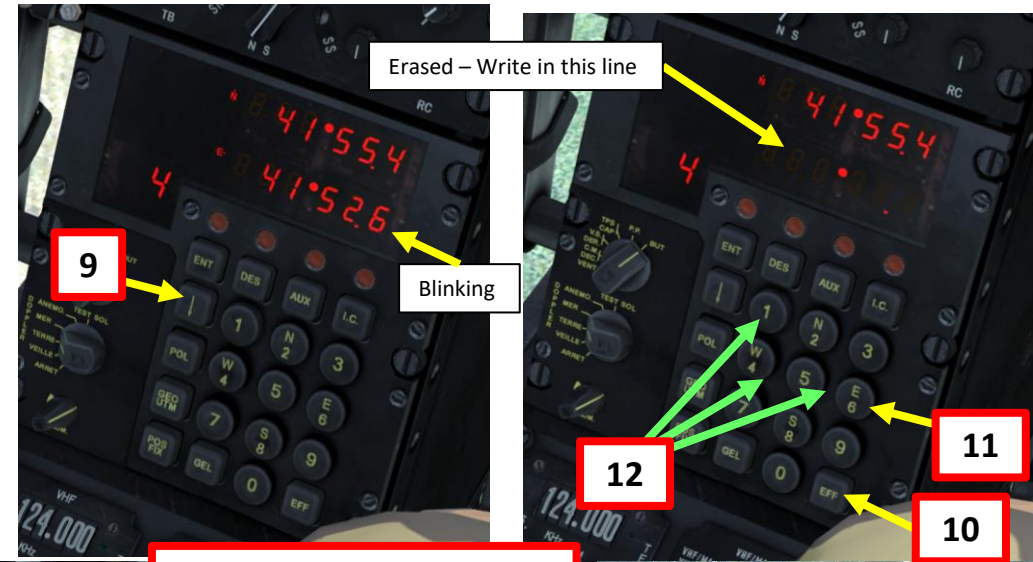
- 1) Note the coordinates of the desired new Waypoint (example: Kobuleti Airfield coordinates when pressing F10 are $41^{\circ}55'45''$ North / $41^{\circ}51'47''$ East)
- 2) Select TERRE (Ground) NADIR Mode.
- 3) Select BUT (Waypoint) NADIR Parameter.
- 4) Select desired Waypoint Number to edit/add on the keypad.
- 5) Press ENTER
- 6) Press EFF (ERASE) repeatedly to delete all digits of the selected line.
- 7) Add N (for North Hemisphere) by pressing “N” or “2”.
- 8) Enter North coordinates via the keypad (41 55 45)
- 9) Press the DOWN ARROW button on the keypad to select second display line
- 10) Press EFF (ERASE) repeatedly to delete all digits of the selected line.
- 11) Add E (for East Hemisphere) by pressing “E” or “6”.
- 12) Enter East Coordinates via the keypad (41°51'47)
- 13) Press ENTER. New Waypoint 4 with proper coordinates is now tracked.
- 14) Follow pointy end of NADIR needle on NADIR indicator.



III – NADIR SYSTEM TUTORIAL

TUTORIAL 2 – HOW TO CREATE AND TRACK A BUT (WAYPOINT)

- 1) Note the coordinates of the desired new Waypoint (example: Kobuleti Airfield coordinates when pressing F10 are 41°55'45" North / 41°51'47" East)
- 2) Select TERRE (Ground) NADIR Mode.
- 3) Select BUT (Waypoint) NADIR Parameter.
- 4) Select desired Waypoint Number to edit/add on the keypad.
- 5) Press ENTER
- 6) Press EFF (ERASE) repeatedly to delete all digits of the selected line.
- 7) Add N (for North Hemisphere) by pressing "N" or "2".
- 8) Enter North coordinates via the keypad (41 55 4)
- 9) Press the DOWN ARROW button on the keypad to select second display line
- 10) Press EFF (ERASE) repeatedly to delete all digits of the selected line.
- 11) Add E (for East Hemisphere) by pressing "E" or "6".
- 12) Enter East Coordinates via the keypad (41°51'4)
- 13) Press ENTER. New Waypoint 4 with proper coordinates is now tracked.
- 14) Follow pointy end of NADIR needle on NADIR indicator.



IV - NDB & VOR STATIONS - HOW TO FIND THEM?

Lino_Germany created a **wonderful** HD map containing all NDB stations scattered throughout the map. Use this to know the NDB stations you need to use.
 LINK: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B-uSpZROuEd3LVRDS3hyaElkUEk/view?usp=sharing>

Legend:

- 247.1** Russian ARC radio station with related morse code, MiG-21Bis sector and channel parameters.
- 682** NDB (Non Directional Beacon) with corresponding frequency in kHz and morse code.
- 761** Combination of NDB and inner or outer marker. NDB with corresponding frequency in kHz and morse code.
- 110.30 / 126°** ILS (Instrument Landing System) with corresponding frequency in MHz, direction of the runway and morse code. Direction of the runway is TRUE HEADING. Magnetic course deviation is true heading minus 6 degrees.
- 113.80** VOR (VHF Omnidirectional Radio Range) with corresponding frequency in MHz and morse code.
- 67x** TACAN (Tactical Air Navigation) with corresponding channel and morse code.
- 1** RSN (VOR) and PRMG (ILS) channels with corresponding morse code.

Channel and Frequency Legend:

- 40 / 840** RSN channel and frequency (since DCS 1.5) with morse code.
- 26 / 826** PRMG channel and frequency (since DCS 1.5) with morse code.

Example: Georgia 11 13-31 2400 m

Country	Georgia	Runway	13-31	Direction & Length	2400 m
Airport ID	11	ATC Category 1			
Airport Name	BATUMI	ATC Category 2			
	131.00	ATC Category 3			
	260.00	Cockpit Wave Number	40	40	
		ATC Channel VHF / UHF	3	170	
			14	13	

Lino_Germany's
DCS BEACON MAP
 Version 1.46

Russia 2 09-27 2500 m
 KRASNODAR-CENTER

Frequency	122.00	38.60
ATC Category 2	251.00	38.60
Cockpit Wave Number	152	
ATC Channel VHF / UHF	7	1

NDB: 625, 303, 303, 625

Georgia 13 07-25 2400 m
 KOBULETI

Frequency	133.00	
ATC Category 2	262.00	
ATC Category 3	40.80	
Cockpit Wave Number	7	174
ATC Channel VHF / UHF	7	9

OUTER NDB STATION 870

INNER NDB STATION 490

111.50 70°

67x

15

A B

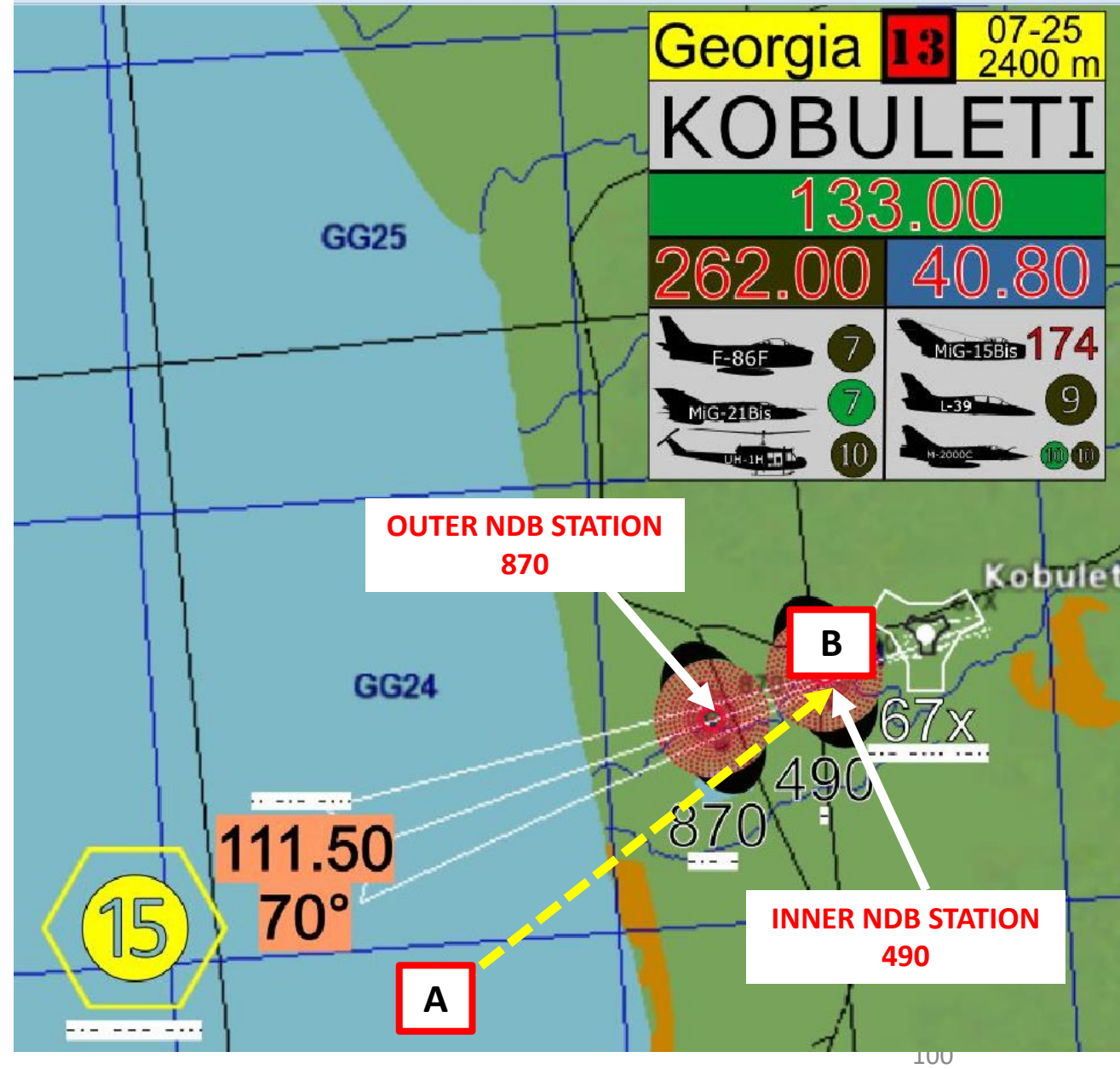
V – ADF SYSTEM TUTORIAL

In this example, we will fly over the inner NDB beacon placed in the vicinity of Kobuleti using the ADF (Automatic Direction Finder). We will do the following:

- Fly towards **Kobuleti**.
- Use the ADF1 system to track **Kobuleti's Inner NDB Beacon, ADF frequency 490** (obtained through Lino Germany's map).
- Set the ADF2 system to **Kobuleti's Outer NDB Beacon, ADF frequency 870** (obtained through Lino Germany's map).
- Navigate towards Kobuleti's Inner NDB Beacon.

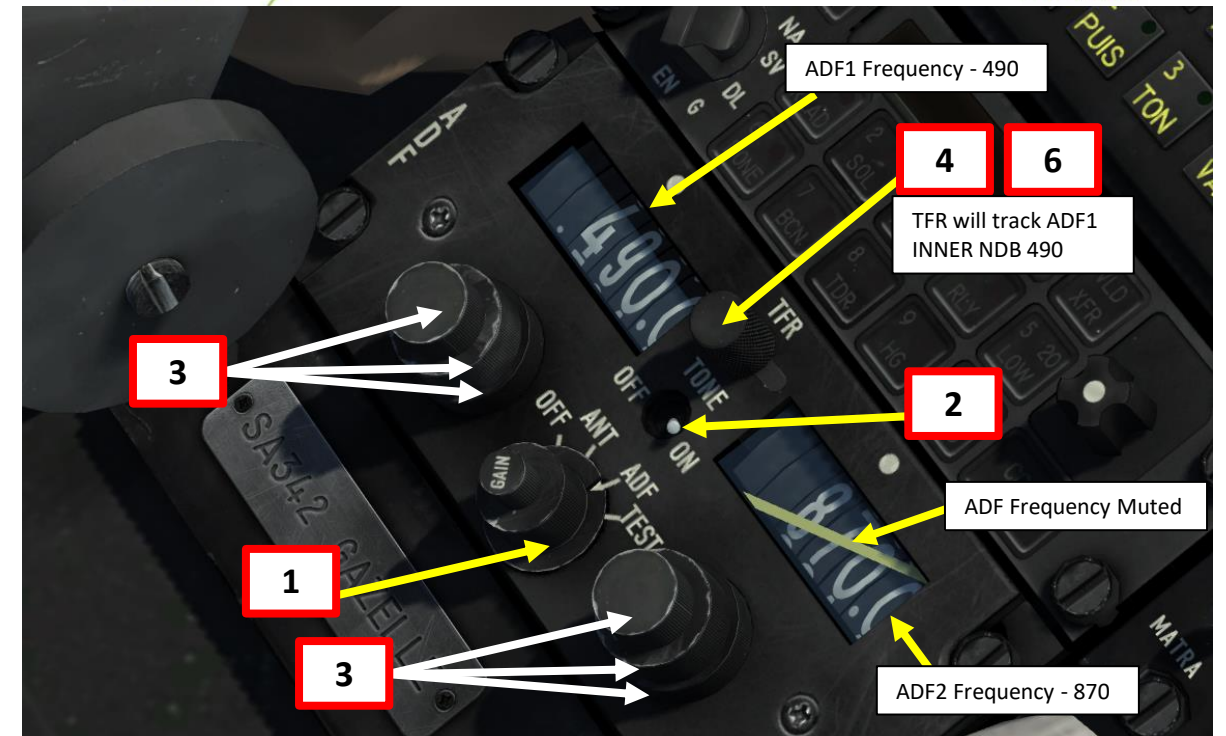
Note: The ADF system in the Gazelle can memorize two NDB frequencies at the same time but can only track one at a time. We will have to choose which one we want to track.

In our case, we will track the INNER NDB STATION (490), which is set on our ADF1.



V – ADF SYSTEM TUTORIAL

- 1) Set ADF mode rotator to ADF
- 2) Set ADF Tone switch to ON
- 3) Set your frequencies for a) the Inner NDB (490) on ADF1 and for b) the Outer NDB (870) for ADF2.
- 4) Select the ADF frequency you want to track using the TFR selector toggle. We will track ADF1 (Inner NDB 490) as an example. A “Mute” yellow line will appear over muted ADF freq.
- 5) Follow the pointy end of the ADF needle on the NADIR indicator towards the Inner NDB (490).
- 6) At any time, you can choose to switch the ADF system to the Outer NDB instead (870) by using the TFR selector toggle.



OVERVIEW OF TRIM AND AUTOPILOT SYSTEMS ON THE GAZELLE

The SA-342 can be trimmed in two ways independently:

- **Magnetic Brake Trim** (*Débrayage des Efforts – Freins Magnétiques*), which works like a Force Trim usually used in helicopters that leaves your cyclic in its current position and releases forces felt in the cyclic (very apparent with a force-feedback joystick).
- **China Hat Trim**, which works like a trim in a normal aircraft (pitch up/down, roll left/right).

The SA-342 is equipped with a **Stability Augmentation System** (SAS), which helps to stabilize the helicopter during flight. The SAS is split into three channels:

- Pitch channel
- Roll channel
- Yaw channel

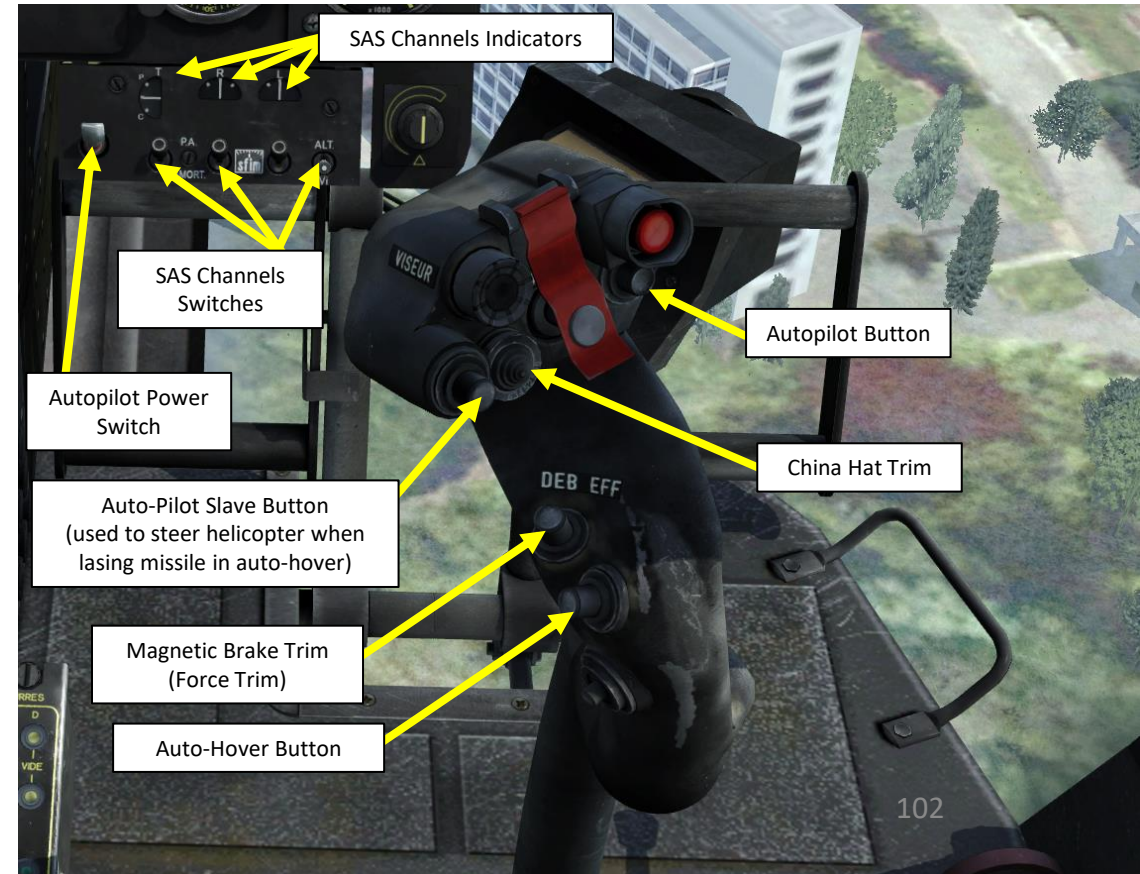
Watch xxJohnxx's youtube tutorial explaining trim and the autopilot here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=inT-fGgpmOM>

The SAS is used by the **Autopilot**, which relies on the SAS. The SAS autopilot is automatically engaged at 120 km/h or faster. When reducing speed under 120 km/h, you may notice a sudden yaw motion of the aircraft; this means that the SAS autopilot has been disengaged. The Autopilot has three modes:

- **Normal Operation Mode** – Normal SAS behaviour
- **Hold Altitude Mode** – Maintain current altitude
- **Hold Speed Mode** – Maintain current airspeed

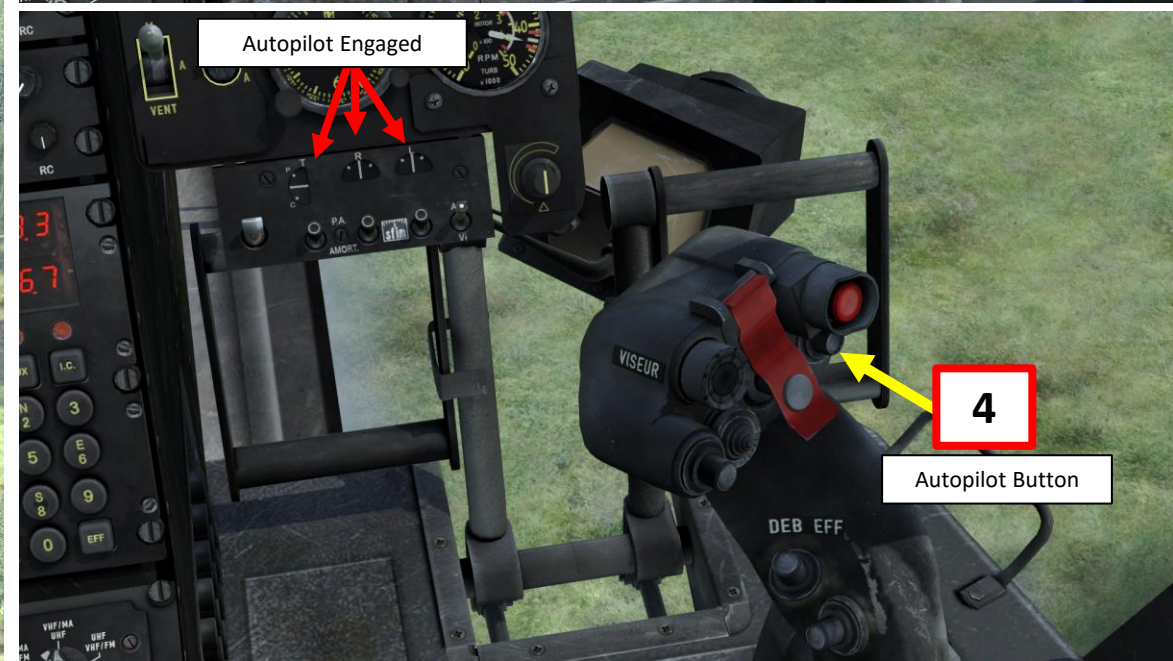
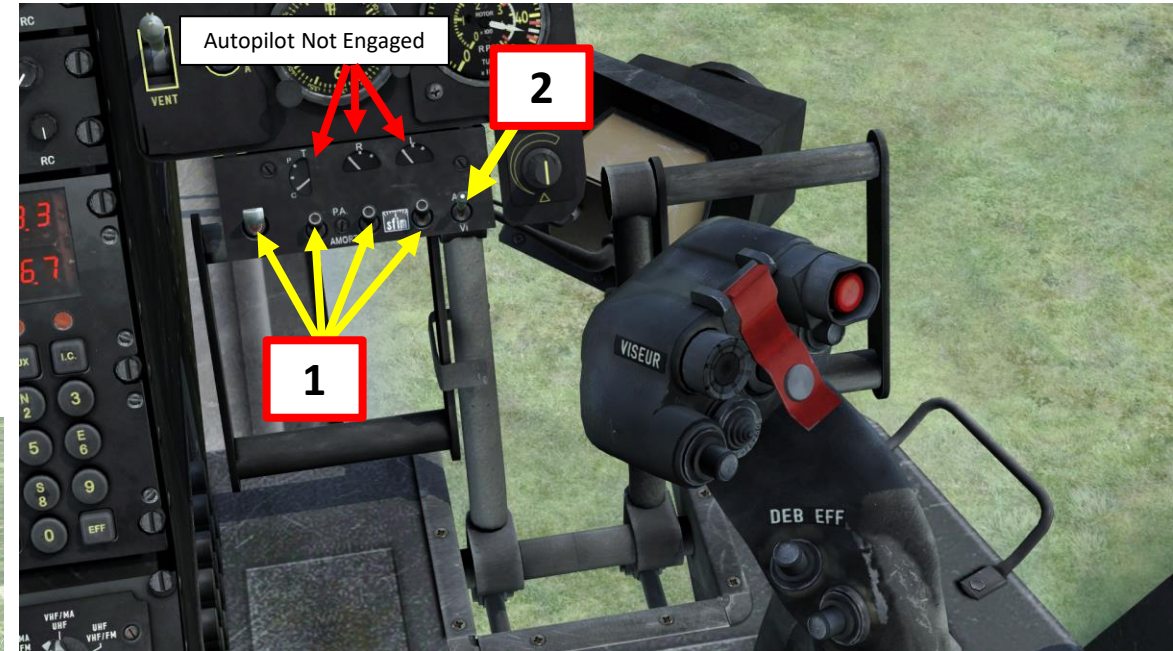
Finally, you can use the autopilot's **Auto-Hover** Mode, which can be used with the **Auto-Pilot Slave** button used to automatically steer the helicopter towards a designated lased target.



AUTOPILOT TUTORIAL – HOLD ALTITUDE

- 1) Ensure all SAS channel switches are ON (UP) and Autopilot power switch is ON (UP).
- 2) Set Autopilot Mode to ALTITUDE (UP).
- 3) Ensure that your current airspeed is greater than 120 km/h.
- 4) Engage Autopilot using the AP button on the cyclic.
- 5) Helicopter will maintain current altitude.

NOTE: Autopilot will disengage if you go slower than 120 km/h.



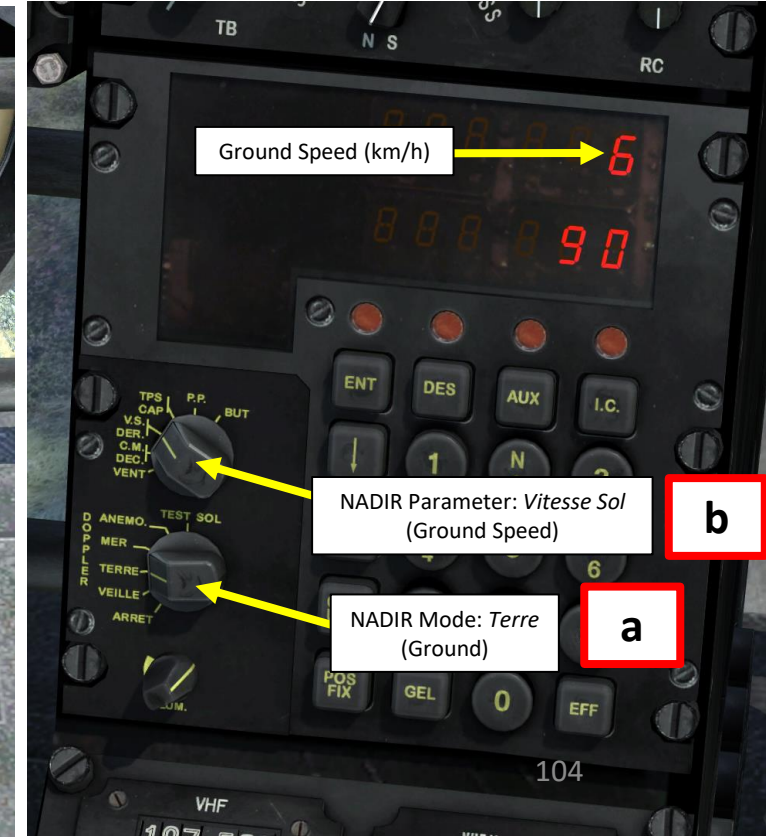
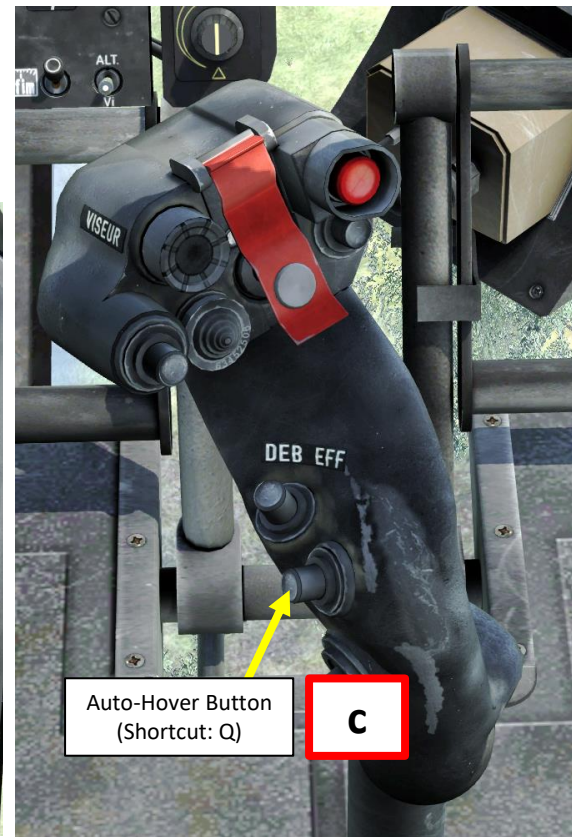
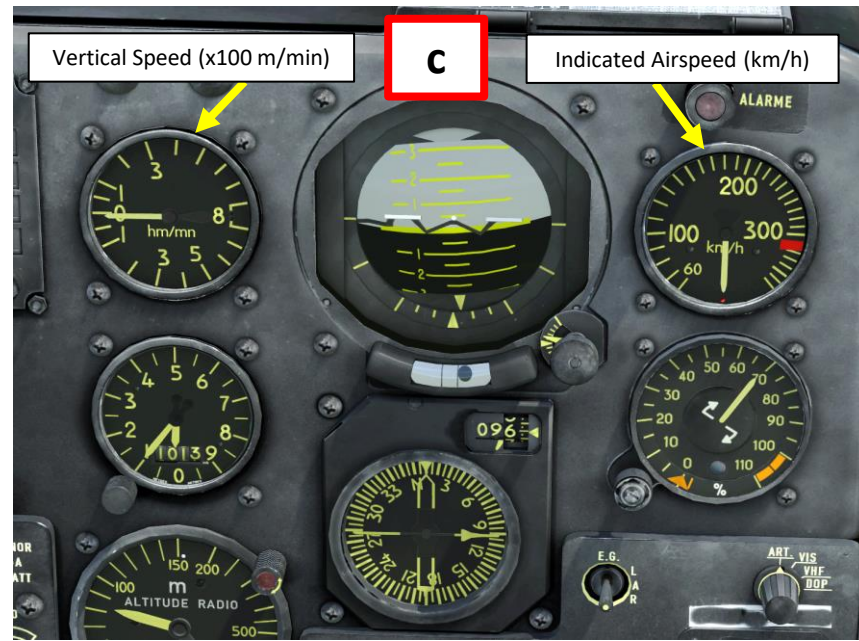
AUTO-HOVER TUTORIAL

To maintain a auto-hover, you need to respect the following conditions:

- 1) Ground Speed is less than 18 km/h
- 2) Roll and pitch angle less than 30 deg
- 3) Vertical Speed is less than 60 m/min

To monitor ground speed, we will use the Doppler radar of the NADIR system.

- a) Set your NADIR mode to “Terre” (ground)
- b) Set your NADIR parameter to “VS” (*Vitesse Sol* = Ground Speed)
- c) Once all conditions 1, 2 and 3 are met, **engage auto-hover**. If auto-hover is engaged, you can let go of the controls and you will remain in a controlled hover. You will also notice that you cannot move the collective unless you disengage Auto-Hover Mode.



AUTO-HOVER TUTORIAL

Once in auto-hover, the SA-342 will keep hovering in a 10m x 10m zone.



STANDARD COMMUNICATIONS

Abort--terminate a preplanned aircraft maneuver.
Affirmative--yes.
Bandit--an identified enemy aircraft.
Braking--announcement made by the crew member who intends to apply brake pressure.
Break--immediate action command to perform an emergency maneuver to deviate from the present ground track; will be followed by the word "right," "left," "up," or "down."
Call out--command by the pilot on the controls for a specified procedure to be read from the checklist by the other crew member.
Cease fire--command to stop firing but continue to track.
Clear--no obstacle present to impede aircraft movement along the intended ground track. Will be preceded by the word "nose," "tail," or "aircraft" and followed by the direction; for example, "left," "right," "slide left," or "slide right." Also indicates that ground personnel are authorized to approach the aircraft.
Come up/down--command to change altitude up or down; normally used to control masking and unmasking operations.
Contact--establish communication with... (followed by the name of the element).
Controls--refers to aircraft flight controls.
Drifting--an alert of the unintentional or undirected movement of the aircraft; will be followed by the word "right," "left," "backward," or "forward."
Egress--command to make an emergency exit from the aircraft; will be repeated three times in a row.
Execute--initiate an action.
Expect--anticipate further instructions or guidance.
Firing--announcement that a specific weapon is to be fired.

Figure 6-4. Examples of standard words and phrases

Fly heading--command to fly an assigned compass heading. (This term generally used in low-level or contour flight operations.)
Go ahead--proceed with your message.
Go AJ--directive to activate antijam communications.
Go plain--directive to discontinue secure operations.
Go secure--directive to activate secure communications.
Go red--directive to discontinue secure operations.
Hold--command to maintain present position.
Hover--horizontal movement of aircraft perpendicular to its heading; will be followed by the word "left" or "right."
Inside--primary focus of attention is inside the cockpit for longer than two to three seconds.
Jettison--command for the emergency or unexpected release of an external load or stores; when followed by the word "door," will indicate the requirement to perform emergency door removal.
Maintain--command to continue or keep the same.
Mask/unmask--to conceal aircraft by using available terrain features and to position the aircraft above terrain features.
Mickey--a Have Quick time-synchronized signal.
Monitor--command to maintain constant watch or observation.
Move aft--command to hover aft, followed by distance in feet.
Move forward--command to hover forward, followed by distance in feet.
Negative--incorrect or permission not granted.
Negative contact--unable to establish communication with... (followed by name of element).
No joy--target, traffic, or obstruction not positively seen or identified.
Now--indicates that an immediate action is required.
Outside--primary focus of attention is outside the aircraft.
Put me up--command to place the P* radio transmit selector switch to a designated position; will be followed by radio position numbers on the intercommunication panels (1, 2, 3). Tells the other crew member to place a frequency in a specific radio.
Release--command for the planned or expected release of an external load.

Figure 6-4. Examples of standard words and phrases (continued)

Report--command to notify.
Roger--message received and understood.
Say again--repeat your transmission.
Slide--intentional horizontal movement of an aircraft perpendicular to its heading; will be followed by the word "right" or "left."
Slow down--command to reduce ground speed.
Speed up--command to increase ground speed.
Stand by--wait; duties of a higher priority are being performed and request cannot be complied with at this time.
Stop--command to go no further; halt present action.
Strobe--indicates that the aircraft AN/APR-39 has detected a radar threat; will be followed by a clock direction.
Tally--target, traffic, or obstruction positively seen or identified; will be followed by a repeat of the word "target," "traffic," or "observation" and the clock position.
Target--an alert that a ground threat has been spotted.
Traffic--refers to friendly aircraft that present a potential hazard to the current route of flight; will be followed by an approximate clock position and the distance from your aircraft with a reference to altitude (high or low).
Transfer of controls--positive three-way transfer of the flight controls between the rated crew members; for example, "I have the controls," "You have the controls," and "I have the controls."
Troops on/out--command to have troops enter or exit the aircraft.
Turn--command to deviate from present ground track; will be followed by words "right" or "left," specific heading in degrees, a bearing ("Turn right 30 degrees"), or instructions to follow a well-defined contour ("Follow the draw at 2 o'clock").
Unable--indicates the inability to comply with a specific instruction or request.
Up on--indicates primary radio selected; will be followed by radio position numbers on the intercommunication panels ("Up on 1, up on 3").
Weapons hot/cold/off--weapon switches are in the ARMED, SAFE, or OFF position.
Wilco--I have received your message, I understand, and I will comply.

Figure 6-4. Examples of standard words and phrases (continued)

OTHER INTERESTING RESOURCES AND USEFUL STUFF

POLYCHOP'S DCS GAZELLE MANUAL

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B-uSpZROuEd3aURVaDJuRTZKQjQ>

POLYCHOP'S DCS GAZELLE: NADIR MANUAL

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B-uSpZROuEd3aldIRjN0M2wxb1E>

AUTOROTATION TUTORIAL

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F_a9q_B-TRE

BUNYAP'S YOUTUBE CHANNEL – GAZELLE TEST FLIGHT SERIES

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLoiMNU5jyFzQTjElhGFPWZ2qFfCIVf0I9>

XXJOHNXX'S YOUTUBE CHANNEL – GAZELLE TUTORIALS

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLs4yzB9MM2SxhUARTzldiME7-nTNI-QX->

LINO_GERMANY'S NAVIGATION MAP

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B-uSpZROuEd3LVRDS3hyaElkUEk/view?usp=sharing>

FAA HELICOPTER FLYING HANDBOOK

http://www.faa.gov/regulations_policies/handbooks_manuals/aviation/helicopter_flying_handbook/

FAA MANUAL CHAPTER 15: NAVIGATION

http://www.faa.gov/regulations_policies/handbooks_manuals/aviation/pilot_handbook/media/PHAK%20-%20Chapter%2015.pdf

THANK YOU TO ALL MY PATRONS

Creating these guides is no easy task, and I would like to take the time to properly thank every single one of my [Patreon](#) supporters. The following people have donated a very generous amount to help me keep supporting existing guides and work on new projects as well:

- [ChazFlyz](#)

SA342 GAZELLE

by: POLYCHOP-SIMULATIONS



- INSTANT ACTION
- CREATE FAST MISSION
- MISSION
- CAMPAIGN
- MULTIPLAYER
- LOGBOOK
- ENCYCLOPEDIA
- TRAINING
- REPLAY
- MISSION EDITOR
- CAMPAIGN BUILDER
- EXIT

- F-86F
- F/A-18C EA
- FC3
- Fw 190 D-9
- I-16 beta
- Ka-50
- L-39
- M-2000C
- Mi-8MTV2
- MiG-15bis
- MiG-19P
- MiG-21bis trunk
- Normandy
- P-51D
- Persian Gulf
- SA342
- Spitfire IX