

CONGO (DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO)

FDC 8/7569

Democratic Republic of Congo (DROC) (Formerly Zaire) Advisory - Potentially Hostile Situation.

Attention U.S. Operators:

The DROC has been involved in a civil war periodically since 1996; fighting there has shifted back and forth from one side of the country to the other. None of the forces involved in the regional fighting is known to have the capability of targeting aircraft at normal over flight cruising altitudes above 15,000 feet above ground level (AGL).

Aircraft operating below 15,000 feet AGL in the DROC may come within weapons range as the fighting continues. An October 1998 incident in Eastern Zaire, where a civilian B-727 was shot down by a man-portable missile, demonstrates that the rebel forces in the DROC can and will shoot down civil aircraft they believe to be carrying government soldiers or weaponry. The Department of State has issued a travel warning for this region. Operators considering flights within the DROC should familiarize themselves with the current situation.

(FAA/AIA-100 5/14/02)