

## **FAA Background Information Regarding U.S. Civil Aviation - Mali**

The FAA assesses that U.S. civil aviation operating into, out of, within, or over Mali is at potential risk from hazards associated with ongoing fighting involving military forces and militant groups. The security situation in Mali remains unstable and poses a risk to the safe operation of U.S. civil aviation. As a result, on 26 February 2015, the FAA published Notice to Airmen FDC 5/7498, advising U.S. civil aviation to avoid flight operations into, out of, within or over Mali, at altitudes below FL260.

International civil air routes transit Malian airspace and aircraft operating to and from Malian airports, particularly in the area north of Mopti, are at risk from anti-aircraft weapons, to include Man-Portable Air Defense Systems (MANPADS), small arms fire, and indirect fire from mortars and rockets targeting Malian airports. Some of these weapons have the capability to target aircraft at high altitude and/or upon approach and departure. Militant groups have also demonstrated a willingness to target Malian airports, particularly in northern Mali. Attacks against aircraft in-flight and/or Malian airports can occur with little or no warning.

The FAA will continually review the situation regarding threats to U.S. civil aviation in Mali and make adjustments to its advisory for U.S. civil aviation operations as necessary.

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