

## **FAA Background Information Regarding U.S. Civil Aviation – Tehran (OIIX) Flight Information Region (FIR)**

There is a risk to U.S. civil aviation operating in the Tehran (OIIX) Flight Information Region (FIR) from military activity associated with the conflicts in Iraq and Syria. Military activity in or transiting through the Tehran FIR (OIIX) in association with these conflicts may include cruise missiles and a range of military aircraft. According to media reporting, on 7 October 2015, Russian navy vessels launched 26 land-attack cruise missiles from the Caspian Sea against targets in Syria, four of which inadvertently impacted the ground in Iran. According to media reporting, on 17 November 2015, Russia initiated an intensified bombing campaign using strategic bombers against extremist/militant targets in Syria. Some of these strategic bombers have conducted air-launched cruise missile attacks. Future naval-launched or air-launched missiles may transit international air routes in western Iran and in Iraq en route to targets in Syria. Also, military aircraft transiting the Tehran FIR (OIIX) en route to these conflict zones could present a de-confliction challenge for civil air traffic control authorities in the region. Furthermore, the potential exists for heightened Iranian air defense sensitivity, particularly during periods of Russian military activity. International civil air routes that transit the Tehran FIR (OIIX) may be exposed to hazards from military activity.

On 17 October 2015, the FAA published Notice to Airmen FDC 5/8442 (reissued on 24 November 2015 as NOTAM KICZ A0024/15), advising U.S. civil aviation to exercise caution when flying into, out of, within, or over the Tehran FIR (OIIX). This background notice was revised on November 24, 2015 to provide updated information regarding hazards to U.S. civil aviation in the Tehran FIR (OIIX).

Operators are reminded to check all applicable NOTAMs routinely and stay current on events in the region, as security conditions may change rapidly. The FAA will continue to monitor the situation regarding the risks to U.S. civil aviation in the Tehran FIR (OIIX) and make adjustments, as necessary, to its advisory for U.S. civil aviation operations.

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