

5/12/82

SUBJ: CONTENT CRITERIA FOR AIRMAN'S INFORMATION PUBLICATIONS
ORIGINATING IN THE NATIONAL FLIGHT DATA CENTER

1. PURPOSE. This order provides criteria and responsibilities for the content and publication of information in the several airman's information publications produced by the National Flight Data Center (NFDC).
2. DISTRIBUTION. This order is distributed to branch levels in Washington, regions, and to all field offices and facilities.
3. CANCELLATION. Order 7920.1B dated 9/5/80 is cancelled.
4. EXPLANATION OF MAJOR CHANGES. All references to the Graphic Notices and Supplemental Data publication have been deleted due to the discontinuation of the publication. Additionally, to conform with the NOTAM Handbook, 7930.2, UNICOM frequency data has been excluded from Notices to Airmen (Class II) criteria and runway weight and traffic pattern altitude information has been clarified.
5. AIRMAN'S INFORMATION PUBLICATIONS. The airman's information publications, produced by the NFDC, are the principal publications of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for disseminating current flight information on the United States National Airspace System (NAS), United States controlled oceanic airspace, and foreign notices for operators and pilots contemplating flights into foreign airspace. The information published is collected, maintained, and assembled in the NFDC for publication. Each publication is updated and published at predetermined intervals based on the frequency of change to the subject matter or data contained therein. There are five basic publications. They are:
 - a. Airman's Information Manual-Basic Flight Information and Air Traffic Control Procedures (AIM) - This publication is designed to provide airmen with the basic flight information and air traffic control procedures required in order to fly in the United States NAS. It also contains items of interest to pilots concerning health and medical facts, factors affecting flight safety, a Pilot/Controller Glossary of terms used in the air traffic control system and information on safety, accident, and hazard reporting. This publication is designed for domestic aviators and for distribution within the domestic United States.

Distribution: A-WX-3; A-FOF (minus FAT) (LTD);
A-FAT-0 (STD)

Initiated By: AAT-430

b. U.S. Aeronautical Information Publication (AIP) - This publication is designed for foreign and domestic operators and pilots entering, flying through, and exiting United States controlled airspace. The information contained parallels, to an extent, the publication, "AIM-Basic Flight Information and Air Traffic Control Procedures" and additionally, contains other national rules, regulations, and procedures under the jurisdiction of other United States government departments which are applicable to international flights. This publication is produced and structured in accordance with International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) guidelines. This publication is available for purchase and is distributed to domestic United States and foreign locations.

c. International Flight Information Manual (IFIM) - This publication contains international and foreign airspace entry procedures compiled from foreign aeronautical publications. It is designed to publicize basic foreign and international requirements, and their source documents, to United States nonscheduled commercial and private operators and pilots contemplating flights outside of the United States. This publication is a planning and preflight guide intended for domestic United States distribution.

d. International Notices to Airmen - This publication supplements both the IFIM and NOTAM System. It provides specific foreign and international information and other aeronautical advisories not available via telecommunications which may have a direct impact on an operator or pilot's decision to enter foreign or international airspace. It is designed for domestic United States distribution.

e. Notices to Airmen (Class II) - This publication supplements the United States airman's information publications available for domestic and foreign consumption and the United States domestic NOTAM System. It contains current NOTAMs which are considered essential to the safety of flight in the NAS as well as supplemental data affecting the other operational publications listed here. It also includes current regulatory in nature Flight Data Center NOTAMs issued to establish restrictions to flight or amend charts or published instrument approach procedures. This publication provides preflight and operational information which is not available via telecommunications and which may have a direct impact on a pilot's decision for flight in the NAS. It is designed for both domestic United States and international distribution.

6. CONCEPT. NFDC publications are designed to provide operators and pilots with operational and planning information for flights both within the NAS and for flights into international or foreign airspace. The documents are also informational to FAA personnel including flight service station specialists, and air traffic controllers providing air traffic services. Information intended for legal protective purposes and data having only administrative or recordkeeping value will not be published. Foreign and domestic data which cannot be substantiated through appropriate aeronautical authorities or regulatory publications is not published. International data which may have an immediate and crucial impact on an operator or pilot's decision to proceed with a flight but which cannot be immediately substantiated through normal channels with foreign authorities, but whose content is reasonably assured as being true and correct by the source of the advisory information, will be appropriately identified and published.

7. CRITERIA. The following criteria for each of the publications mentioned in paragraph 5, based on the concepts in paragraph 6, govern the content and publication of information. These criteria do not affect the content and issuance of NOTAMs via telecommunications which are of a time critical nature.

a. Airman's Information Manual - Basic Flight Information and Air Traffic Control Procedures - This publication shall contain clear and concise descriptions of the air traffic control procedures applied in the NAS, and shall provide basic flight information on the air traffic system in the United States to facilitate understanding between pilots operating in the system and the air traffic controllers, and other persons operating within the air traffic system.

b. U.S. Aeronautical Information Publication (AIP) - This publication shall contain clear and concise descriptions of the air traffic control procedures applied in the airspace under the jurisdiction of the United States and shall provide basic flight information on the air traffic system in the United States to facilitate understanding between foreign and United States pilots operating in the system and the air traffic controllers, and other persons operating within the air traffic system. This publication shall also contain, as far as possible, other information as required, and in such form as prescribed by ICAO guidelines. Aeronautical information, which is required for the AIP, but which is disseminated via other publication or vehicles, shall be appropriately identified and referenced in the United States AIP as additional AIP documents.

c. International Flight Information Manual (IFIM) - This publication shall contain basic preflight planning information validated through official foreign aeronautical publications and foreign aviation authorities. The information is published for the guidance of United States nonscheduled and private aviators contemplating flight into international and foreign airspace, in determining the appropriate authorities to contact for required clearances, and in obtaining reference documents necessary to adhere to the regulations applicable in that airspace. Operational data included shall be limited to only that data which identifies a unique and general requirement which would demand special consideration or carriage of special equipment and which must be taken into consideration by the pilot in the preflight phase. Additionally, this publication shall contain such United States domestic and international airspace information as may be required to identify and understand the requirements to exit and enter these areas.

d. International Notices to Airmen - This publication shall contain significant NOTAMs and other special aeronautical notices not available via telecommunications which may affect an operator or pilot's decision to enter or use certain areas of foreign or international airspace. In carrying out its expressed purpose of providing NOTAMs, this publication cannot attempt to tabulate all foreign NOTAM data. The inclusion of such data, additionally, does not constitute a legal recognition or the international validity of that data. Data included will be published as received and validated only to the extent that the source of such data will be official, foreign aeronautical authorities. While every effort will be made to publish all pertinent data, the FAA cannot assume any liability for failure to publish any particular item. Aeronautical data other than foreign NOTAM data shall be published only if it provides significant information which is not contained in

other appropriate foreign or United States aeronautical reference documents. Other data included shall be intended only to amend, correct, or add to other published reference documents, and shall not be carried to duplicate data in other reference documents, whether foreign or United States publications.

e. Notices to Airmen (Class II) - This biweekly publication shall publicize temporary and permanent changes to the NAS as well as Flight Data Center NOTAMs. Temporary changes published must have an expected duration of at least half of the publication's 14-day life cycle. Temporary changes will be published until they have become expired or, in the case of notices of long duration, until they can be published in other permanent documents, for example: Charts and Airport/Facility Directory. Permanent changes shall be published until the changes can be reflected on other permanent documents. Flight Data Center NOTAMs shall be published until they are cancelled by the originator of the Flight Data Center NOTAM. Temporary changes of expected long (indefinite) duration which are submitted without a termination date, and are not appropriate for publication elsewhere, may be removed 28 days after initial publication unless a request for continuation is received by AAT-430 prior to the scheduled publication cutoff date. Scheduled publication cutoff dates are 2 weeks prior to the effective date of the publication. Since this publication supplements the United States Notice to Airmen (NOTAM) Telecommunications System, the criteria for including NOTAM information is basically similar to the criteria used for determining NOTAM(D) Criteria. These criteria are listed in Order 7930.2, United States Civil Notice to Airmen (NOTAM) System Handbook. In addition, the following NOTAM data, which is normally disseminated only to local users (NOTAM(L) Criteria) rather than distant users (NOTAM(D) Criteria), are exceptions and will generally be included in this publication:

- (1) Visual Approach Slope Indicator status change, commissioning or decommissioning at airports identified for distant dissemination of NOTAM data.
- (2) Change in runway weight restrictions at airports identified for distant dissemination of NOTAM data.
- (3) Change to, addition or deletion of, the airport traffic pattern altitude, other than standard, at airports identified for distant dissemination of NOTAM data.
- (4) Opening, closing or abandoning of airports not identified for distant dissemination of NOTAM data, for example: airports considered to be local use airports, which are contained in the Airport/Facility Directory, and are not annotated as NOTAM(D) airports.
- (5) Commissioning, decommissioning, or closing of all runways at airports not identified for distant dissemination of NOTAM data.
- (6) Special events that generate an unusual amount of air traffic or that require special procedures. The need for publication of this information must be determined for each particular case.

(7) Other notices which are considered essential to flight safety, and cannot be adequately publicized elsewhere. The need for publication of this information must be determined for each particular case.

(8) Graphic notices will be included if it is necessary for ready understanding, and if the information is of sufficient import to require special treatment. The need for a graphic presentation will have to be determined for each particular case. All requests for graphic notices must be submitted to AAT-430 (9 weeks in advance of publication date).

8. RESPONSIBILITIES.

a. The Air Traffic Service is responsible for:

(1) Determining conformance with these criteria and preparing all material submitted for publication.

(2) Coordinating with the originator those items which are not considered suitable for publication.

(3) Acknowledging receipt of correspondence from the public.

b. Originating offices and services are responsible for:

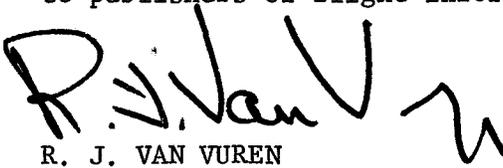
(1) Reviewing their area of responsibility on aeronautical publications and charts, for example: Airport/Facility Directory and United States government charts, for accuracy and currency.

(2) Informing AAT-430 of any revisions with an explanation of change.

(3) Answering correspondence concerning their areas of responsibility.

(4) Insuring that necessary interservice or interoffice coordination has been completed prior to issuance of a change to published information.

c. Facilities shall submit aeronautical information to AAT-430 in accordance with current agency directives and procedures. This and all other data will be used by the NFDC for record maintenance, publication, as appropriate, and dissemination to publishers of flight information products.



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