

AERONAUTICAL INFORMATION CIRCULAR Y 042/2020

UNITED KINGDOM



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Subject

Operational

Cancellation

Y 056/2017



NOTIFICATION OF FORWARD AIR CONTROL EXERCISES AND CLOSE AIR SUPPORT EXERCISES

- 1 The Ministry of Defence conducts Forward Air Control Exercises and Close Air Support Exercises (known as FACEX/CASEX respectively) throughout the United Kingdom. During these exercises, a Joint Tactical Air Controller directs the action of fast-jet aircraft engaged in simulated close air support of land forces.
- 2 Such training exercises may involve one or more fast-jet aircraft which will conduct simulated attack profiles against selected ground targets throughout the UK. Fast-jet profiles may involve dynamic lateral and vertical manoeuvring of aircraft at speeds of up to 450 knots IAS. Whilst engaged in training the aircraft may not be able to comply with Rules of the Air and Air Traffic Services.
- 3 FACEX/CASEX activity will be subject to NOTAM to notify of the time and vertical extent of the exercise area. Each NOTAM will also contain a telephone number of the ground operators and a UHF frequency on which information on the participating aircrafts' positions and/or levels can be tactically obtained. When available, the UHF frequency and telephone number will be supplemented with a VHF frequency. Whilst no Flight Information Services will be available from the ground operator, pilots intending to transit the activity areas are advised to telephone the ground operator prior to flight, and if possible, establish communications on the published frequency.
- 4 Due to the expeditionary nature of this type of activity, it is possible for it to take place throughout the UK FIR in Class G airspace, subject to military requirements. It is to be noted that the NOTAMs pertaining to CASEX/FACEX do not segregate airspace; therefore, extreme caution should be exercised when transiting such notified areas.
- 5 NOTAM which notify of airspace volumes which intersect with Controlled Airspace do not permit participating aircraft to operate inside Controlled Airspace without an ATC clearance to do so.
- 6 **Example NOTAM**
 - A) EGTT
 - B) Start DTG
 - C) End DTG
 - E) AIR EXER. FAST-JET ACFT WILL CONDUCT HIGH ENERGY MANOEUVRES IN SUPPORT OF GROUND OPS WI XNM RADIUS lat/long (LOCATION). PROFILES MAY INVOLVE DYNAMIC LATERAL AND VERTICAL MANOEUVRING OF AIRCRAFT AT SPEEDS OF UP TO 450 KNOTS IAS. ACFT MAY BE UNABLE TO COMPLY WITH RAC. FOR FURTHER INFO AIC Y.../.... REFERS. OPS CTC UHF frequency MHZ / VHF frequency MHZ /(mobile telephone). (CAA Reference Number)
 - F) Lower Alt
 - G) Upper Alt
- 7 Further information may be available from the Joint Forward Air Control Training & Standardisation Unit (JFACTSU), RAF Leeming, on Telephone: 01677-456161/458320.
- 8 Further enquiries relating to notified activity may be made with Airspace Regulation (Utilisation) on Telephone: 01293-983880.