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Federal Aviation Agency

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SUBJECT: NEAR MIDAIR COLLISION STUDY

1. PURPOSE. This circular advises that the FAA will make a special oneyear study of near midair collisions and invites pilots, controllers or
other persons involved in near midair collisions to report all such
incidents to the FAA. To encourage reporting, the Administrator issued
the attached policy statement which grants immunity from FAA enforcement or other adverse action to pilots, controllers and other persons
involved in reported near midair collisions. This circular also provides procedures for reporting such incidents.

2. BACKGROUND.

- a. Since 1959, the FAA has encouraged pilots involved in near midair collisions to furnish voluntary reports and has used the information in developing procedures, regulations and techniques to increase aviation safety.
- b. Information received by the FAA indicates that many incidents may not be reported because persons involved fear possible FAA enforcement action where violations of regulations have occurred. Even when an incident is reported, meaningful information has not always been furnished. As a result, the FAA does not have the basic information necessary to determine the frequency and causes of near midair collisions.
- c. The FAA is seeking uninhibited reporting of complete, frank and specific information on every near midair collision. In addition to granting immunity from FAA enforcement or other adverse action to any person involved in the reported incident, the Administrator, upon written request of the person making the report, will withhold from public disclosure the identity of the persons involved and the information contained in the report, as authorized under Section 1104 of the Federal Aviation Act of 1958.

3. GENERAL INFORMATION.

- a. Persons involved in a near midair collision are requested to report the incident to air traffic facilities by radio as soon as possible, clearly stating that they wish to report a "NEAR MIDAIR COLLISION." This will permit immediate action to obtain the identity and necessary data concerning the other aircraft. As a part of this study, FAA air traffic control will no longer ask "DO YOU INTEND TO FILE AN OFFICIAL NEAR MIDAIR COLLISION REPORT?" where pilots are not specific in their remarks. Therefore, pilots must specifically declare that they are reporting a near midair collision.
- b. To reduce radio congestion and pilot preoccupation during flight, the report should only identify the incident and other aircraft involved. A written followup report should then give the details.
- c. The FAA will use these reports in a study of the frequency of incidents and the factors (such as weather, aircraft speed, ground and airborne equipment, terminal/en route/environment, IFR/VFR) which contribute to the incident. From this study, the FAA hopes to develop procedures, regulations and techniques to minimize the collision hazard.

4. REPORTING PROCEDURES.

- a. <u>Initial Report</u>. Each person who wishes to report an occurrence as a near midair collision should notify an air traffic facility (controlling if appropriate) via radio; "I wish to report a 'NEAR MIDAIR COLLISION'" and then give:
 - (1) Time of incident.
 - (2) Location and altitude.
 - (3) Reporting aircraft's identification, type and destination.
 - (4) Available information on the other aircraft.
 - (5) Weather conditions.
 - (6) Approximate courses and flight attitude of both aircraft.
 - (7) Closest proximity horizontally and vertically between aircraft.
- NOTE: It is desirable to have the initial report by radio when time and frequency congestion permit in order to initiate action to identify the other aircraft involved.

- b. In the event a person does not file a report by radio, he should make the initial report either by telephone or in person to the most convenient FAA air traffic facility or Flight Standards District Office either at next point of landing or at destination. FAA representatives will not routinely interview pilots on landing; therefore, if a person desires to be met by an FAA representative, he should advise the facility at the time of his initial radio report.
- c. Written Report. In addition to the initial report, each pilot involved should submit a complete written report of the near midair collision. The attached reporting form is designed to facilitate this report; it may be supplemented by any additional narrative information which the pilot feels would assist in pinpointing the basic causal factors and identifying appropriate corrective measures. This report may be submitted to an FAA Air Traffic or Flight Standards representative or mailed directly to the Washington address on the postage-free reporting form.

NOTE: Only a report from one crewmember of each aircraft involved is needed.

NOTE: If a person reporting a near midair collision desires that the identity of the persons involved and the information contained in his report be withheld from public disclosure, the Federal Aviation Act of 1958, Section 1104, requires a written objection to such disclosure. Item 26 on the attached reporting form serves this purpose.

5. DURATION.

- a. This study will be based on all near midair collisions which occur from January 1, 1968, to December 31, 1968, inclusive.
- b. The success of this study depends upon the cooperation of those persons who are involved in near midair collisions. The FAA hopes that everyone involved in every such incident during this study will report it fairly and fully.
- 6. AVAILABILITY OF FORMS. Individual copies of the attached reporting form (FAA Form 8020-1) may be obtained free of charge from any FAA Air Traffic Facility, Flight Standards Air Carrier or General Aviation District Office, Area Office or Regional Office. Military commands and organized industry groups may obtain forms in quantity by submitting request to the Department of Transportation, Federal Aviation Administration, Aeronautical Center, Distribution Section, AC-46.2, P. O. Box 25082, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73125.

JS MOOTE

Associate Administrator for Operations

Washington, D.C. 20590 800 Independence Ave., 5.W. Accident Investigation Staff, F5-50 Federal Aviation Administration Department of Transportation

Official Business

Washington, D.C. 20590 FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION PEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT OF TRAUSPORTATION

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID

Form Approved: Budget Bureau No. 04-R0170

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

NEAR MIDAIR COLLISION REPORT

This reporting form is for use in conjunction with the FAA's Near Midair Collision Study. The Administrator will take no enforcement or other adverse action, remedial or disciplinary, against any person involved in a near midair collision that is reported to the FAA during the period of this program even though a violation of the Federal Aviation Regulations is disclosed.

Refer to FAA Advisory Circular 00-23 for further details.

One report from a crew member of each aircraft involved will be sufficient for the purposes of this study.

FAA Form 8020~1 (11-67)

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

/Docket No. 8555/

POLICY REGARDING REPORTS OF NEAR MIDAIR COLLISIONS

The Federal Aviation Administration is establishing a one-year study of the causes of near midair collisions. Success of the study depends on a full report of each near midair collision during the year. To encourage persons involved in near midair collisions to make such reports, the Administrator will take no enforcement or other adverse action, remedial or disciplinary, against any person involved in a near midair collision that is reported to the FAA during the period of this program. This action is taken under his statutory mandate to promote safety in flight. Furthermore, the Administrator will, upon written request of the person making the report, withhold that report, and the identity of those persons involved, from public disclosure in accordance with Section 1104 of the Federal Aviation Act of 1958.

By obtaining full, frank, and complete cooperation from persons involved in near midair collisions, the FAA should be in a position to obtain the necessary information for use in evaluation and development of air traffic control procedures, separation criteria, and pertinent Federal Aviation Regulations. Therefore, it is the policy of the Federal Aviation Administration that if any pilot of an aircraft, Air Traffic Controller, or other person involved, in a near midair collision reports the facts, conditions, and circumstances thereof to the FAA -

- (a) The Administrator will not subject any person involved in the near midair collision to enforcement or other adverse action, remedial or disciplinary, even though a violation of the Federal Aviation Regulations is disclosed by the report or subsequent investigation; and
- (b) Upon written request of the person submitting the report, the Administrator will, to the extent authorized by Section 1104 of the Federal Aviation Act of 1958, withhold the identity of the persons involved in the near midair collision and the information contained in that report from public disclosure.

This policy applies to near midair collisions which occur from January 1, 1968, to December 31, 1968, inclusive.

Issued under the authority of sections 305, 307(c), 312(c), 313(a), 601(a), 701(a), and 1104 of the Federal Aviation Act of 1958 (49 U.S.C. 1346, 1348(c), 1353(c), 1354(a), 1321(a), 1441(a) and 1504).

William F. Mc Ken Administrator

Issued in Washington, D. C., on November 27, 1967