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DATE: 3/23/77



ADVISORY CIRCULAR

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

SUBJECT: USE OF PORTABLE ELECTRONIC DEVICES—RADIO RECEIVERS

1. PURPOSE. This circular is intended to remind air carrier or commercial operators of the requirements of FAR 91.19, "Portable Electronic Devices," as they apply to pocket size radio receivers capable of reception in the 110-140 MHz aircraft radio navigation and communication band when such receivers are operated aboard U.S.-registered civil aircraft.
 2. BACKGROUND. Currently there are available to the public small pocket size radio receivers that receive signals within the 110-140 MHz band—the aircraft radio navigation and communication band. Operators should be alert to the possibility that such receivers, when operated aboard aircraft, may interfere with the airborne systems.
 3. RULE REQUIREMENTS. FAR 91.19, Portable electronic devices, states:

"(a) Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section, no person may operate, nor may any operator or pilot in command of an aircraft allow the operation of, any portable electronic device on any of the following U.S. registered civil aircraft:

 - (1) Aircraft operated by an air carrier or commercial operator; or
 - (2) Any other aircraft while it is operated under IFR.

"(b) Paragraph (a) of this section does not apply to:

 - (1) Portable voice recorders;
 - (2) Hearing aids;
 - (3) Heart pacemakers;
 - (4) Electric shavers; or
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- (5) Any other portable electronic device that the operator of the aircraft has determined will not cause interference with the navigation or communication system of the aircraft on which it is to be used.

"(c) In the case of an aircraft operated by an air carrier or commercial operator, the determination required by paragraph (b)(5) of this section shall be made by the air carrier or commercial operator of the aircraft on which the particular device is to be used. In the case of other aircraft, the determination may be made by the pilot in command or other operator of the aircraft."


R. P. SKULLY
Director, Flight Standards Service

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