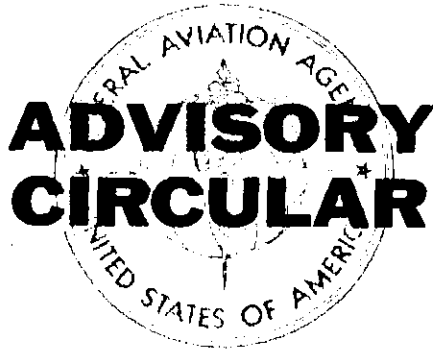


# Federal Aviation Agency



AC NO: AC 90-10

AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL  
AND  
GENERAL OPERATIONS

EFFECTIVE :

3/1/64

*Cancelled 00-2N*

**SUBJECT : HOLDING PATTERNS**

1. PURPOSE. This circular advises pilots that the revised IFR aircraft holding pattern procedures, implemented by the Federal Aviation Agency (FAA) in January 1962, will be the sole basis for providing protected airspace for holding patterns, beginning March 1, 1964.
2. CANCELLATION. Technical Standard Order (TSO) N20a, "Criteria for Establishment of Airspace Areas Which Will Encompass Standard Flight Holding Patterns," dated December 4, 1951, will be canceled effective March 1, 1964, and all references to TSO-N20a will be deleted from the Flight Information Manual (FIM) published by the FAA.
3. REFERENCE. The FIM: Section III of the Air Traffic Control Procedures.
4. BACKGROUND. TSO-N20a was published in December 1951. It was designed to encompass holding within a racetrack pattern. At that time TSO-N20a was adequate--it served the altitudes, aircraft, and air traffic control system in use. However, with the year-by-year increase in number of IFR flights and higher operational performance requirements of newer aircraft, TSO-N20a became inadequate, both in size and concept. New procedures were developed for better use of controlled airspace. The new holding procedures, published by the FAA on June 6, 1961, have been in effect since January 1962 as an alternate to procedures based on TSO-N20a.
5. PROCEDURES. Effective March 1, 1964, the FAA will publish only the new IFR aircraft holding-pattern procedures in the FIM.
6. ACTION: Pilots should familiarize themselves with the new procedures published in the FIM. Delay in the effective date of this action will give pilots several months to acquaint themselves with these procedures.

*For: [Signature]*

Lee E. Warren, Director  
Air Traffic Service