

Cancelled by 9144

AC NO: 00-36

DATE: 15 Mar 73



ADVISORY CIRCULAR

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

SUBJECT: INADVERTENT TRANSMISSIONS FROM EMERGENCY LOCATOR
TRANSMITTERS (ELT)

1. **PURPOSE.** This circular urges pilots and maintenance personnel to make sure emergency locator transmitters are switched off when aircraft are parked.
2. **BACKGROUND.** Numerous cases of inadvertent ELT transmissions have already occurred as a result of aerobatics, hard landings or aircraft maintenance. Such transmissions can cause unnecessary search missions to be conducted and can block the frequency for actual emergency use. Advisory Circulars 00-35 and 20-81 provide additional information regarding ELTs.
3. **RECOMMENDED ACTION.** To aid in detecting transmissions due to inadvertent ELT activation, it is recommended that:
 - a. Prior to engine shutdown at the end of each flight, pilots tune the aircraft's VHF receiver to 121.5 MHz and listen for ELT audio sweeps.
 - b. If an ELT signal is heard, turn off your aircraft's ELT to determine if your transmitter is the one in operation. If you find that it had been activated, maintenance may be required before the "G" activation unit is returned to the armed position.
 - c. Reminders to switch off the ELT at the end of flights be placed on checklists or placards. Use of other effective reminders is also encouraged.

Inadvertent activation of ELT, if undetected by the aircraft owner, can cause serious problems if the signals interfere with those of an actual emergency.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "C. R. Melugin, Jr.", is written over the typed name.

C. R. MELUGIN, JR.
Acting Director, Flight Standards Service

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