

Title 14—AERONAUTICS AND SPACE

Chapter I—Federal Aviation Admin- istration, Department of Transpor- tation

[Docket No. 9448; Amdt. No. 121-48]

PART 121—CERTIFICATION AND OP- ERATION: DOMESTIC; FLAG, SUP- PLEMENTAL AIR CARRIERS AND COMMERCIAL OPERATORS OF LARGE AIRCRAFT

Megaphone Location Requirement Deviations

The purpose of this amendment is to authorize deviations from § 121.309(f) (1) when the Administrator finds that relocation of the portable battery-powered megaphone on airplanes with a seating capacity of more than 60 and less than 100 passengers would be more useful for emergency evacuation. This amendment is based on a notice of proposed rule making (Notice 69-5) published in the FEDERAL REGISTER (34 F.R. 3751) on March 4, 1969.

Section 121.309(f) requires that a portable battery-powered megaphone on airplanes with a seating capacity of more than 60 and less than 100 passengers, be positioned at the most rearward location in the passenger cabin where it would be readily accessible to a normal flight attendant seat. As pointed out in the notice, some airplanes with this passenger capacity have more emergency passenger exits in the forward area of the airplane than in the rear. As a result, the main evacuation route is the forward portion of the airplane, with the evacuat-

ing passengers using the forward entrance door, the over-the-wing exits, and the galley door as emergency exits. This amendment will permit accessibility of the megaphone to be considered and allow flexibility for relocation of the megaphone to a position the Administrator determines would be more useful in the emergency evacuation of persons from the airplane.

We believe use of the deviation authority provided by this amendment will be consistent with other requirements of the regulations which have as their objective the effective evacuation of passengers from an airplane in the event of an emergency.

Interested persons have been afforded an opportunity to participate in the making of this amendment, and due consideration has been given to all relevant matter presented.

In consideration of the foregoing, Part 121 of the Federal Aviation Regulations is amended effective July 11, 1969, by adding the following sentence to the end of § 121.309(f) (1):

§ 121.309 Emergency equipment.

(f) * * *

(1) * * * However, the Administrator may grant a deviation from the requirements of this subparagraph if he finds that a different location would be more useful for evacuation of persons during an emergency.

(Secs. 313(a), 601, 603, 604, Federal Aviation Act of 1958; 49 U.S.C. 1354, 1421, 1423, 1424, sec. 6(c), Department of Transportation Act; 49 U.S.C. 1655(c))

Issued in Washington, D.C., on July 3, 1969.

J. H. SHAFFER,
Administrator.

(As published in the Federal Register
/34 F.R. 11489/ on July 11, 1969)