CIVIL AIR REGULATIONS

PART 33

FLIGHT RADIO OPERATOR CERTIFICATES

Effective February 15, 1950

CIVIL AERONAUTICS BOARD

WASHINGTON, D. C.

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PART 33—FLIGHT RADIO OPERATOR CERTIFICATES

Adopted by the Civil Aeronautics Board at its office in Washington, D. C., on the 6th day of February 1950.

This revision clarifies the requirements for the issuance of flight radio operator certificates in light of the standards established in Annex 1 (Personnel Licensing Standards) to the Convention on International Civil Aviation, and delineates general operating rules for flight radio operators. It will be noted that a few substantive changes in the currently effective rules which are discussed below have been made in this revision.

This revision requires a license complying with the requirements specified in the general radio regulations annexed to the International Telecommunications Convention as a prerequisite for flight radio operator certificates instead of a Federal Communications Commission license. This will permit a foreign national who currently cannot obtain an FCC license to obtain a flight radio operator certificate, and will enable certain foreign nations to forego establishing national licensing requirements for flight radio operators in order to comply with the requirements of the Convention on International Civil Aviation.

It will be noted that flight radio operator certificates issued to individuals other than United States citizens shall remain in effect for a period no longer than one year. However, provision is also made that such certificates may be renewed without further demonstration of technical competency on the part of the flight radio operator. Certificates may be issued to foreign nationals only if such individuals are citizens of a foreign government which grants or has undertaken to grant reciprocal flight radio operator privileges to citizens of the United States on equal terms and conditions with citizens of such foreign government. Therefore, if reciprocal agreements are terminated, thus removing the basis of reciprocity on which citizens of the foreign government concerned have been issued their United States certificates, the provision with regard to duration of such certificates will provide a means by which they may be withdrawn by the Administrator.

It will be further noted that no provision is made in this part regarding recent experience requirements for flight radio operators as proposed in the notice of proposed rule making on this subject. However, upon completion of our study of the various proposals to insure continued competency of certificated flight radio operators, submitted in response to such notice, we shall appropriately amend the Civil Air Regulations.

The FCC has established a written examination for the issuance of a radiotelegraph operator license of the second or higher class which complies with the general radio requirements annexed to the International Telecommunications Convention and covers the same subjects required by this part to be taken by an applicant for a flight radio operator certificate. If an applicant for a flight radio operator certificate successfully accomplishes the FCC examination and submits satisfactory documentary evidence of such fact, he will not be required to take the written examination prescribed in this part. Therefore, applicants for such certificates who are United States citizens should apply for the radiotelegraph operator licenses for aircraft operation at an appropriate field office of the FCC prior to making application to the Administrator for flight radio operator certificates. Applicants other than United States citizens may apply at any CAA international field office or United States district office located near international airports used by foreign flag air carriers.

Sec.

33.0 Applicability of this part.
33.1 Definitions.

CERTIFICATION RULES

33.5 Application for certificate.
33.6 Issuance.
33.7 Duration.
33.8 Exchange of certificates.
33.9 Display.
33.10 Change of address.

GENERAL CERTIFICATE REQUIREMENTS

33.21 Citizenship.
33.22 Age.
33.23 Education.
33.24 Examinations and tests.
33.25 Reexamination after failure.
33.26 Substantiation of experience.
33.27 Physical standards.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR A CERTIFICATE

33.31 Experience.
33.32 Knowledge.
33.33 Skill.

OPERATING RULES

33.41 Certificate required.
33.42 Medical certificate.
33.43 Operation during physical deficiency.
33.44 Grace period for periodic tests and other qualification procedures.

AUTHORITY: §§ 33.0 to 33.44 issued under sec. 205, 52 Stat. 984; 49 U. S. C. 425. Interpret or apply secs. 601, 602, 52 Stat. 1007, 1008; 49 U. S. C. 551, 552.

§ 33.0 *Applicability of this part.* This part establishes certification and general operating rules for flight radio operators.

§ 33.1 *Definitions.* (a) As used in this part the words below shall be defined as follows:

(1) *Flight radio operator.* A flight radio operator shall mean an individual whose primary assigned duty during flight over any route or route segment is to communicate by radio with other stations.

(2) *Authorized representative of the Administrator.* An authorized representative of the Administrator shall mean any employee of the Civil Aeronautics Administration or any private person, authorized by the Administrator to perform any of the duties imposed upon him by the provisions of this part.

CERTIFICATION RULES

§ 33.5 *Application for certificate.* An application for a certificate shall be made on a form and in a manner prescribed by the Administrator.[1]

[1] Since a flight radio operator, as a prerequisite to obtaining a certificate under the provisions of this part, is required to hold a radio-telegraph operator license of second class, or higher, complying with the international requirements, an applicant for a flight radio operator certificate who is a United States citizen should apply for the FCC license at an appropriate field office of the FCC and accomplish the written examination required for the issuance of such license prior to making application to the Administrator for the issuance of a flight radio operator certificate. Applicants who are not United States citizens should make application at any CAA international field office or United States district office located near international airports used by foreign flag air carriers.

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§ 33.6 *Issuance.* (a) A flight radio operator certificate shall be issued by the Administrator to an applicant who meets the requirements of this part.

(b) Pending a review of the applicant's application and supplementary documents and the issuance of a certificate by the Administrator, an authorized representative of the Administrator may, subject to such conditions and limitations as the Administrator may prescribe, issue a temporary flight radio operator certificate to an applicant who meets the requirements of this part.

§ 33.7 *Duration.* (a) A flight radio operator certificate shall remain in effect until surrendered, suspended, revoked, or otherwise terminated by order of the Board, after which it shall be returned to the Administrator. A certificate issued to an individual other than a United States citizen shall remain in effect for a period no longer than one year, but it may be renewed without further demonstration of technical competence.

(b) A temporary flight radio operator certificate shall remain in effect for no longer than a 90-day period.

§ 33.8 *Exchange of certificates.* All flight radio operator certificates issued prior to the effective date of this revision of Part 33 shall expire on January 1, 1951. Each certificate holder shall, on or before that date, surrender his certificate to the Administrator who shall issue a new certificate to an individual who meets or has met the requirements of this part

§ 33.9 *Display.* A flight radio operator shall, upon request, present his airman and medical certificates for examination by any authorized representative of the Civil Aeronautics Board or Administrator or by any State or local law enforcement officer.

§ 33.10 *Change of address.* Within 30 days after any change in the permanent mailing address of a certificated flight radio operator, he shall notify the Administrator in writing of his new address. The notice shall be mailed to the Administrator of Civil Aeronautics, attention Airman Records Branch, Washington 25, D. C.

GENERAL CERTIFICATE REQUIREMENTS

§ 33.21 *Citizenship.* An applicant shall be a citizen of the United States or of a foreign government which grants or has undertaken to grant reciprocal flight radio operator privileges to citizens of the United States on equal terms and conditions with citizens of such foreign government.

§ 33.22 *Age.* An applicant shall be at least 18 years of age.

§ 33.23 *Education.* An applicant shall be able to read, write, and understand the English language and speak the same without any accent or impediment of speech that would interfere with two-way radio conversation.

§ 33.24 *Examinations and tests.* Examinations and tests shall be conducted by an authorized representative of the Administrator at such times and places as the Administrator may designate. The passing grade for all oral and written examinations shall be at least 70 percent. The practical examination shall be accomplished to the satisfaction of the authorized representative of the Administrator.

§ 33.25 *Reexamination after failure.* An applicant who has failed any prescribed written[2] or practical examination or test may not apply for reexamination within a 30-day period unless he presents a signed statement by a person authorized by the Administrator to give instruction in the subject or subjects in which reexamination is desired that the applicant has received an additional 5 hours of instruction in the subject or subjects failed and is considered competent to pass the examination or test.

§ 33.26 *Substantiation of experience.* An applicant shall present to the Administrator satisfactory documentary evidence to substantiate the experience qualifications for a flight radio operator certificate.

§ 33.27 *Physical standards.* An applicant shall present evidence that he has, within the 12 months immediately preceding the date of application, met the physical standards of the third class prescribed in Part 29 of the Civil Air Regulations.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR A CERTIFICATE

§ 33.31 *Experience.* An applicant shall hold a radiotelegraph operator license of second class, or higher, complying with the requirements specified in the general radio regulations annexed to the International Telecommunications Convention; [3] and

(a) Shall have had at least 12 months of satisfactory experience as a radio operator in aircraft, maritime, or ground stations, commercial or military, including at least four months of experience as a radiotelegraph operator; and shall have had at least 50 hours of experience in the operation of aircraft radio during flight; or

(b) Within 90 days immediately preceding application shall have completed successfully a course of instruction which the Administrator approves as adequate for the training of a flight radio operator.

§ 33.32 *Knowledge.* (a) An applicant shall satisfactorily accomplish a written examination [4] on the following subjects:

(1) The provisions of the Civil Air Regulations applicable to the duties of a flight radio operator;

(2) Aircraft radio equipment, domestic and foreign;

(3) Radio navigation of aircraft;

(4) Aircraft radio operating procedures, domestic and foreign.

§ 33.33 *Skill.* An applicant shall (a) satisfactorily accomplish a practical examination on the inspection, adjustment, and routine repair of aircraft radio communications (telegraphy and telephony) and radio navigational equipment; (b) satisfactorily accomplish a practical flight examination on the operation of aircraft radio communications (telegraphy and telephony) and radio navigation; and (c) demonstrate his ability to send and receive international Morse code at a speed of 20 words per minute code groups, and 25 words per minute plain language.[5]

[2] The regulations of the Federal Communications Commission regarding the issuance of radiotelegraph operator licenses provide that an applicant for such a license who has failed the prescribed written examination for the issuance of such license is ineligible for 2 months to retake such examination.

[3] To operate a radio station on an aircraft of United States registry with a radio station licensed by the Federal Communications Commission, an individual must hold, in addition to his airman certificate, the appropriate radio operator's license issued by the Federal Communications Commission.

[4] The subjects included under the knowledge requirement are those subjects on which an applicant will be required to accomplish satisfactorily a written examination. These subjects are over and above the minimum requirements for the issuance of a radiotelegraph operator license of second class as set forth by the International Telecommunications Convention. The Federal Communications Commission issues a license to radiotelegraph operators of second class or higher for specified service in aircraft which includes examinations adequately covering the above-mentioned subjects. Therefore, an applicant who submits satisfactory documentary evidence to the Administrator that he has successfully accomplished the FCC written examination for a radiotelegraph operator's license for aircraft operation will not be required to take the written examination prescribed herein.

[5] This speed requirement in sending and receiving international Morse code is higher than the minimum International Telecommunications Convention requirements for a radiotelegraph operator license of second class. An applicant who holds a second class radiotelegraph operator license will be required to demonstrate his ability to meet this speed requirement or furnish satisfactory evidence that he does meet this requirement.

Satisfactory evidence that an applicant meets the speed requirement shall be the possession of a radiotelegraph operator license, first class, issued under the minimum standards as prescribed by the International Telecommunications Convention.

Since the FCC requires an applicant for a radiotelegraph operator license of second class for aircraft operation to meet this speed requirement, such license will be acceptable to the Civil Aeronautics Administration in lieu of a practical demonstration of his code ability.

OPERATING RULES

§ 33.41 *Certificate required.* No individual shall serve as a flight radio operator in air commerce on an aircraft of United States registry without, or in violation of the terms of, a certificate issued in accordance with the provisions of this part. He shall have his certificate in his personal possession when performing his duties.

§ 33.42 *Medica. certificate.* No individual shall exercise the privileges accorded by a flight radio operator certificate unless he has in his personal possession while so serving a medical certificate or other evidence satisfactory to the Administrator showing that he has met the physical requirements appropriate thereto within the preceding 12 months.

§ 33.43 *Operation during physical deficiency.* No individual shall exercise the privileges accorded by a flight radio operator certificate during any period of known physical deficiency or increase in physical deficiency which would render him unable to meet the physical requirements prescribed for the issuance of his currently effective medical certificate.

§ 33.44 *Grace period for periodic tests and other qualification procedures.* Whenever this part requires an examination, test, or other qualifying procedure at stated intervals, a grace period of 15 days shall be allowed: *Provided*, That the effective date of the examination, test, or other qualifying procedure, if met within the grace period, shall be the same as it would have been if met on the day immediatley preceding the beginning of such grace period.

By the Civil Aeronautics Board.

[SEAL] M. C. MULLIGAN,
Secretary.

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