UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
CIVIL AERONAUTICS BOARD
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Civil Air Regulations Amendment 61-13
Effective: March 10, 1948
Adopted: February 3, 1948

AIR CARRIER
MINIMUM SAFE ALTITUDES AND DISTANCES

The purpose of this regulation is to provide an additional margin of safety for air carriers by raising, with certain exceptions, the present minimum instrument altitudes over mountainous terrain from 1,000 feet to 2,000 feet; the minimum night VFR altitudes in unlighted areas over mountainous terrain from 1,000 feet to 2,000 feet; and the minimum day VFR altitudes from 500 feet to 1,000 feet.

Air carrier accidents in which aircraft have failed to clear the terrain have clearly pointed to the need for raising the minimum en route altitudes to provide for a greater margin of safety in those areas or under those conditions where miscalculations, altimeter errors, or unusual weather conditions may result in insufficient clearance at the presently established minimum altitudes.

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, the Civil Aeronautics Board hereby amends Part 61 of the Civil Air Regulations (14 CFR, Part 61, as amended) effective March 10, 1948:

By amending §§ 61.74 through 61.741 to read as follows:

61.74 Flight altitude rules. Except during take-off and landing, the flight altitude rules prescribed in §§ 61.740 and 61.741, in addition to the applicable provisions of § 60.107, shall govern air carrier operations: *Provided*, That other altitudes may be established by the Administrator for any route or portion thereof where he finds, after considering the character of the terrain being traversed, the quality and quantity of meteorological service, the navigational facilities available, and other flight conditions, that the safe conduct of flight permits or requires such other altitudes.

61.740 Day VFR passenger operations. No aircraft engaged in passenger operations shall be flown at an altitude less than 1,000 feet above the surface or less than 1,000 feet from any mountain, hill, or other obstruction to flight.

61.741 Night VFR or IFR operations. No aircraft shall be flown at an altitude less than 1,000 feet above the highest obstacle located within a horizontal distance of 5 miles from the center of the course intended to be flown or, in mountainous terrain designated by the Administrator, 2,000 feet above the highest obstacle located within a horizontal distance of 5 miles from the center of the course intended to be flown: *Provided*, That in VFR operations at night in such mountainous areas aircraft may be flown over a lighted civil airway at a minimum altitude of 1,000 feet above such obstacle.

(Secs. 205 (a), 601, 604, 52 Stat. 984, 1007, 1010; 49 U.S.C. 425 (a), 551, 554)

By the Civil Aeronautics Board:

/s/ M. C. Mulligan

M. C. Mulligan
Secretary

(SEAL)

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