[14 CFR Part 91 [New]]

[Reg. Docket No. 1620; Draft Release No. 63-8]

OPERATION ON AND IN VICINITY OF AIRPORTS WITHOUT CONTROL TOWER

Withdrawal of Advance Notice of Proposed Rule Making

On February 20, 1963, the Federal Aviation Agency published an advance notice of proposed rule making (14 CFR Part 60) concerning the operation of aircraft on or in the vicinity of airports without a control tower. The notice indicated that § 60.18(c) of the Civil Air Regulations [now recodified as Federal Aviation Regulation § 91.89 [New]] presently contains provisions dealing with communications requirements, the direction of turns when landing, and compliance with established traffic patterns when departing airports not having a control tower. The Agency believed it necessary to determine whether the present requirements of § 60.18(c) were adequate, or whether it was necessary for safety reasons to provide additional provisions such as traffic pattern entry procedures, traffic pattern altitude and speed requirements, use of specific runways, crosswind operations and avoidance of traffic patterns by en route aircraft. The public was invited to submit written comments and suggestions concerning this proposal. In addition, the Agency scheduled a series of informal conferences to be conducted during October and November 1963, at Philadelphia, Birmingham, Des Moines, Houston, Denver, Phoenix, Seattle, Oakland, Anchorage, and Honolulu, so that interested persons could express their opinions and make recommendations.

Many segments of the aviation industry responded through written comment to the advance notice. Because of the number and diversity of these comments, no effort will be made to individually treat them in this notice. The Agency also made a written record of the comments, opinions and recommendations expressed by persons who appeared at the various informal conferences.

After reviewing the comments and reconsidering all facets of this matter, it has been determined that at this time the present regulation is adequate and a more definitive traffic pattern rule would serve no useful purpose. A universally applicable standard traffic pattern rule would be excessively burdensome to aircraft operators. The complexities associated with catering to the diverse circumstances and situations at the large number of airports in the United States would constitute overregulation and provide little if any improvement in safety. The proposed rule change would therefore not be in the public interest.

In consideration of the foregoing, the advance notice of proposed rule making entitled "Operation on and in the Vicinity of Airports Without a Control Tower," and circulated as Notice 63-8, is hereby withdrawn.

This withdrawal shall become effective on publication in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

Issued in Washington, D.C., on October 1, 1964.

CLIFFORD P. BURTON,
Acting Director,
Air Traffic Service.

[F.R. Doc. 64-10215; Filed, Oct. 7, 1964; 8:46 a.m.]