FEDERAL AVIATION AGENCY
FLIGHT STANDARDS SERVICE
Washington 25, D. C.

December 22, 1961

CIVIL AIR REGULATIONS DRAFT RELEASE NO. 61- 28

SUBJECT: Designated Mountainous Areas

The Flight Standards Service of the Federal Aviation Agency has under consideration amendments to Part 610 of the Regulations of the Administrator to revise designated mountainous areas applicable to establishment of minimum en route instrument altitudes. The reasons therefor are set forth in the explanatory statement of the attached proposal which is being published in the Federal Register as a notice of proposed rule making.

The Flight Standards Service desires that all persons who will be affected by the requirements of this proposal be fully informed as to its effect upon them and is therefore circulating copies in order to afford interested persons ample opportunity to submit comments as they may desire.

Because of the large number of comments which we anticipate receiving in response to this draft release, we will be unable to acknowledge receipt of each reply. However, you may be assured that all comments will be given careful consideration.

It should be noted that comments must be submitted in duplicate to the Docket Section of the Federal Aviation Agency, and in order to insure consideration must be received on or before February 19, 1962.

George C. Pratt

Director
Flight Standards Service

FEDERAL AVIATION AGENCY

FLIGHT STANDARDS SERVICE

[14 CFR 610]

[Regulatory Docket No. 1014; Draft Release No. 61-28]

NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE MAKING

Subpart D—Designated Mountainous Areas

Pursuant to the authority delegated to me by the Administrator (14 CFR 405.27), notice is hereby given that the Federal Aviation Agency is considering an amendment to Sections 610.3 and 610.8 of the Regulations of the Administrator, as hereinafter set forth.

Interested persons may participate in the making of the proposed rules by submitting such written data, views, or arguments as they may desire. Communications should be submitted in duplicate to the Docket Section of the Federal Aviation Agency, Room C-226, 1711 New York Avenue, N.W., Washington 25, D.C. All communications received on or before February 19, 1962, will be considered by the Administrator before taking action upon the proposed rules. The proposals contained in this notice may be changed in the light of comments received. All comments submitted will be available in the Docket Section for examination by interested persons when the prescribed date for return of comments has expired.

The official docket will be available for examination by interested persons at the Docket Section, Federal Aviation Agency, Room C-226, 1711 New York Avenue, N.W., Washington 25, D.C.

Under Part 610, certain areas of the United States have been designated by the Administrator as mountainous areas. In these areas, it is necessary to establish, with appropriate exceptions, minimum IFR altitudes at 2,000 feet above the highest obstacles on the airway or off-airway route because of the accompanying weather phenomena, pressure differentials, and disturbed air flow attending the passage of strong winds over the mountains. Since these conditions exist in the mountainous areas of the Aleutian Group of the State of Alaska and the State of Hawaii,it is deemed advisable to designate these areas as "Mountainous Areas." Accordingly, it is proposed to delete (610.8(c)(2)(v) which excepts the Aleutian Group from that portion of Alaska presently designated as "Mountainous Area." It is also proposed to except from the designated Mountainous Area of Alaska a small coastal area in northern Alaska where mountainous terrain does not exist.

Consideration is also being given to including the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico as a designated "Mountainous Area." A considerable portion of Puerto Rico is mountainous terrain and would generally be considered to qualify for such designation although very little weather in the area would be accompanied by icing, turbulence or atmospheric eddies, vortices, and waves that would produce pressure differentials that would be hazardous to flight operations.

This proposal also contains an exception to the criteria used in the establishment of minimum en route altitudes to permit the designation of specific routes at altitudes less than 2,000 feet for the mountainous areas in Puerto Rico and Hawaii.

The proposed changes in designated mountainous terrain are depicted on the maps accompanying this proposal.

In consideration of the foregoing, it is proposed that Part 610 of the Regulations of the Administrator (14 CFR 610) be amended as follows:

1. By amending the introductory paragraph of (610.3(b)(2)(i) to read as follows:

(i) *Exceptions.* Altitudes may be established providing only 1,200 feet obstruction clearance in the designated mountainous areas of the Eastern United States and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and 1,600 feet obstruction clearance in the designated mountainous areas of the western United States and the States of Alaska and Hawaii: Provided, That consideration will be given to the following items before altitudes providing less than 2,000 feet obstruction clearance in these areas are established:

2. By amending § 610.8(c)(2)(v) to read as follows: (v) Beginning at a point where latitude 69°30′ intersects the northwest coast of Alaska and eastward along the 69°30′ parallel to the 150° Meridian, thence northward along the 150° Meridian to 60°50′ north latitude, thence eastward along the 60°50′ parallel to a point where 60°50′ intersects the northeast coastline of Alaska.

3. By substituting the accompanying map of mountainous terrain, Alaska, for the present map of mountainous terrain, Alaska, following § 610.8.

4. By amending § 610.8 by adding new paragraphs (d) and (e) to read as follows:

610.8 MOUNTAINOUS AREAS * * *

(d) HAWAII [11]

All of the State of Hawaii.

(e) PUERTO RICO [12]

All of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

[11] See map of mountainous terrain, Hawaii.

[12] See map of mountainous terrain, Puerto Rico.

Issued in Washington, D.C., on December 22, 1961

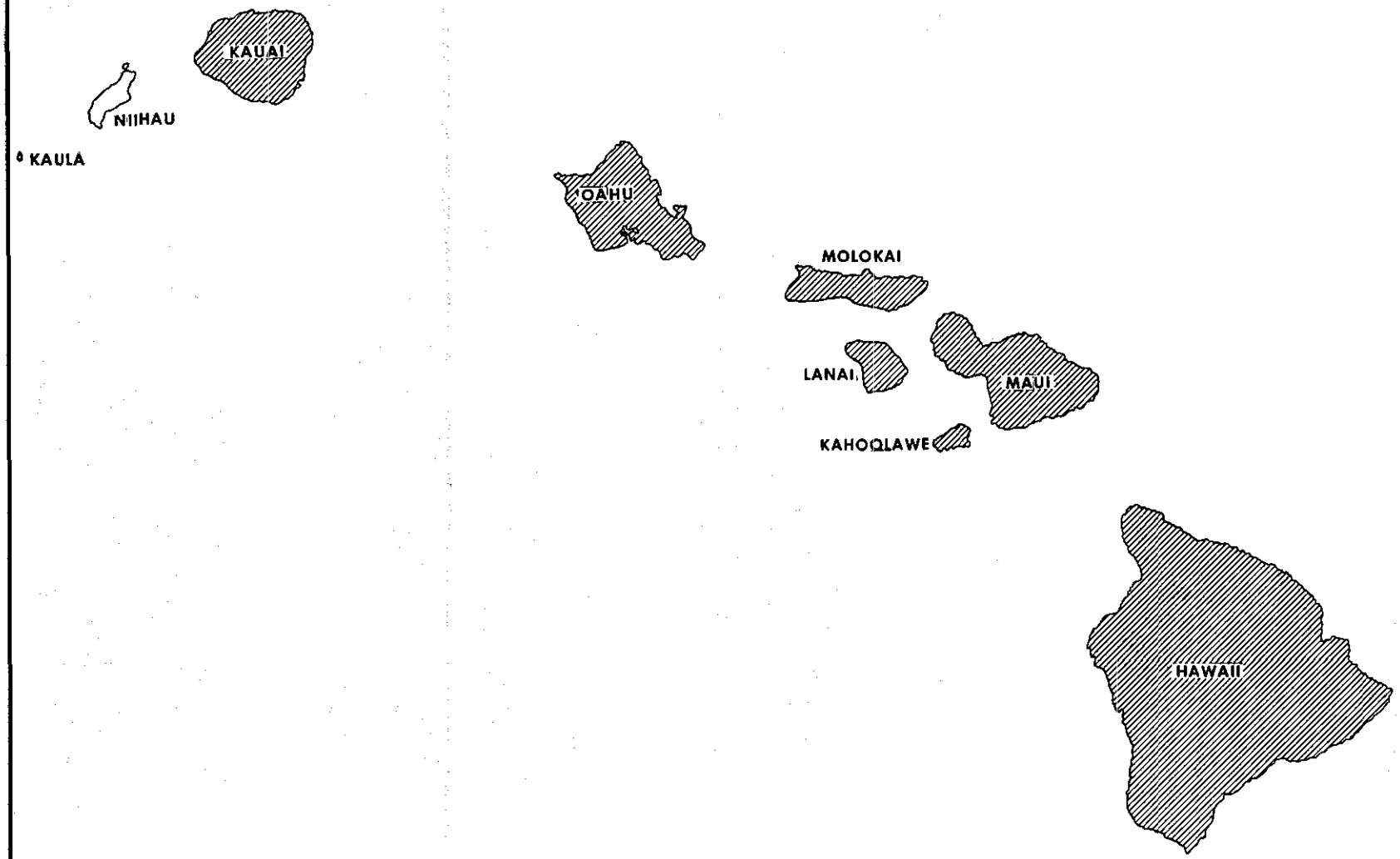
Attachment

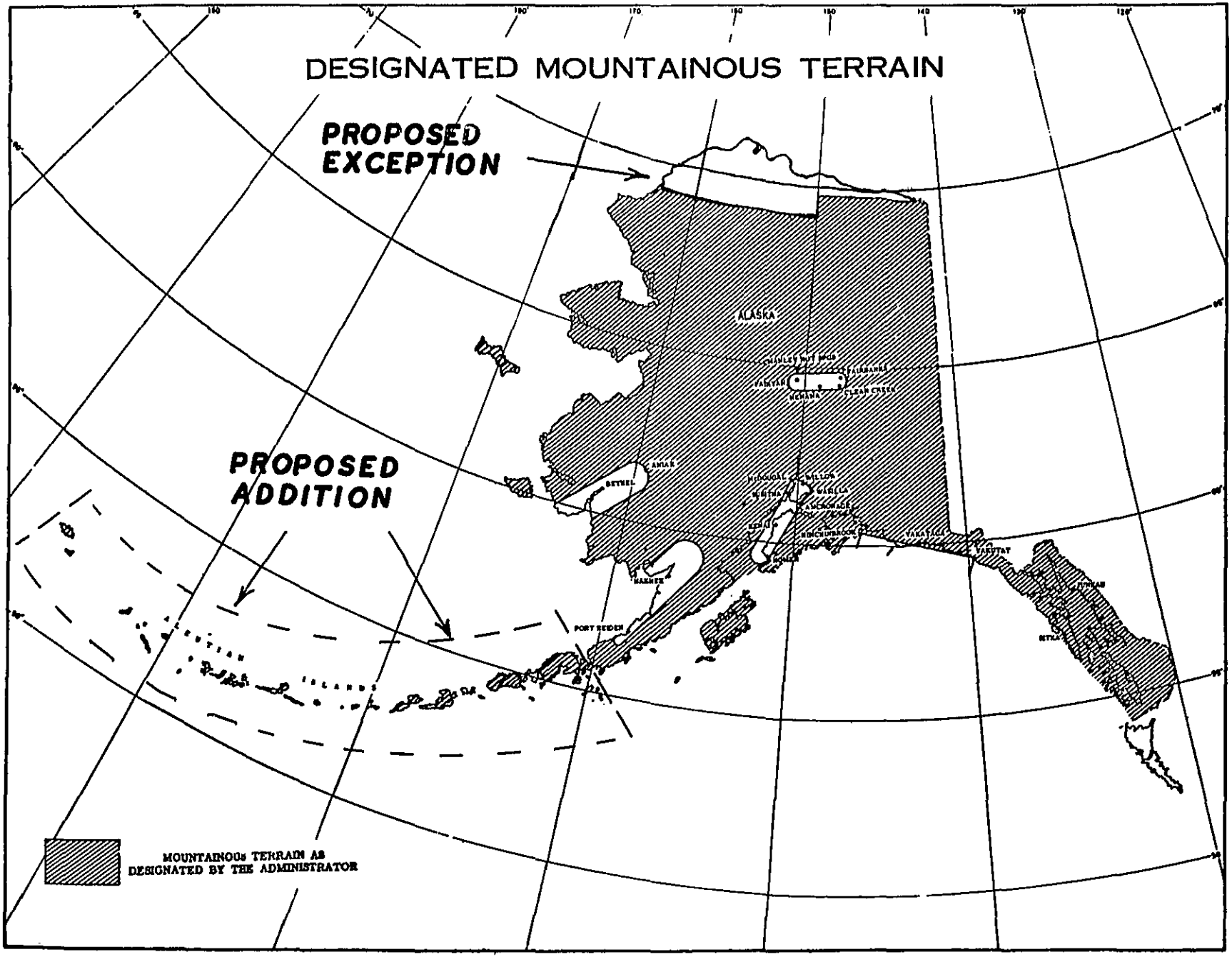
This amendment is proposed under Section 313(a), 307(c), and 601 of the Federal Aviation Act of 1958. (72 Stat. 752, 749, 775, 49 U.S.C. 1354(a), 1348(c), 1421.)

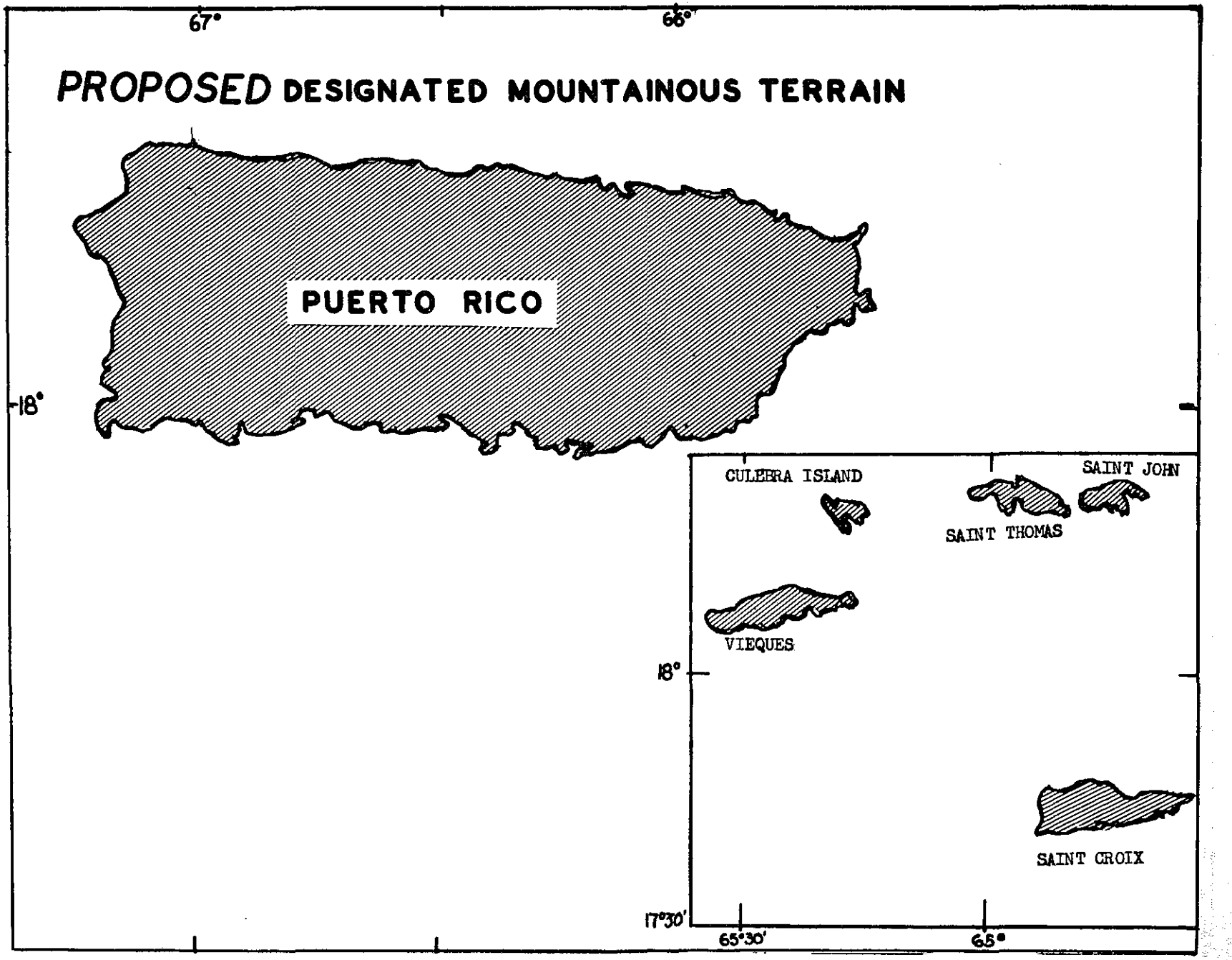
George C. Price

Director,
Flight Standards Service.

PROPOSED DESIGNATED MOUNTAINOUS TERRAIN




DESIGNATED MOUNTAINOUS TERRAIN
PROPOSED EXCEPTION
PROPOSED ADDITION
ALASKA
FAIRBANKS
CLEAR CREEK
ANIAK
BETHEL
WILLOW
WASILLA
KENAI
HINCHINBROOK
VAKATAGA
VAKUTAT
PORT HEIDEN
ALEUTIAN ISLANDS
MOUNTAINOUS TERRAIN AS DESIGNATED BY THE ADMINISTRATOR


67°
66°
PROPOSED DESIGNATED MOUNTAINOUS TERRAIN
PUERTO RICO
18°
CULEBRA ISLAND
SAINT JOHN
SAINT THOMAS
VIEQUES
18°
SAINT CROIX
17°30'
65°30'
65°

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