



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
US ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND  
HEADQUARTERS, US ARMY GARRISON FORT A.P. HILL  
P.O. BOX 1039  
BOWLING GREEN, VIRGINIA 22427-1039

IMPL-PLA

9 February 2016

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Policy Memorandum, Use of Radio Controlled (RC) Model Aircraft on the Installation

1. Reference:

a. Public Law 112-95 (H.R. 658, Section 336), Subject: The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Modernization and Reform Act of 2012, 14 Feb 2012.

b. Notice N JO 7210.891, U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Aviation Administration, Subject: Unmanned Aircraft Operations in the National Airspace System (NAS), 25 Nov 2015.

c. Advisory Circular (AC) 91-57A, Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Subject: Model Aircraft Operating Standards, 2 Sep 2015.

2. Applicability. This policy applies to all military and civilian personnel who perform duties, reside, visit, or otherwise enter for any purpose Fort A.P. Hill, Virginia.

3. Purpose. To define the use of Radio Controlled (RC) model aircraft (also known as small unmanned aircraft systems (SUAS) and/or drones) over Fort A.P. Hill and its assigned airspace.

4. Background: Public Law 112-95 defines unmanned aircraft as an aircraft that is operated without the possibility of direct human intervention from within or on the aircraft. Section 336 of P.L. 112-95 defines a model aircraft as an unmanned aircraft that is capable of sustained flight in the atmosphere, flown within visual line of sight of the person operating the aircraft, and flown only for hobby or recreational purposes. While aero-modelers generally are concerned about safety and exercise good judgment when flying model aircraft for the hobby and recreational purposes for which they are intended, they may share the airspace in which manned aircraft are operating. Unmanned aircraft, including RC model aircraft, may pose a hazard to manned aircraft in flight and to persons and property on the surface if not operated safely. RC model aircraft operations that endanger the safety of the National Airspace System (NAS), particularly careless or reckless operations or those that interfere with or fail to give way to any manned aircraft, may be subject to FAA enforcement action.

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5. By order of the Installation Commander, RC model aircraft are NOT authorized in any portion of the Fort A.P. Hill airspace. Drones, fixed wing or rotary wing, have the potential for a mid-air aviation mishap. Due to low flying military aircraft, uncontrolled and restricted airspace, and transitioning aircraft through the airspace creates a complex scenario above Fort A.P. Hill military installation.

6. The proponent for this policy is the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security, Aviation, 804-633-8272.



DAVID A. MEYER  
LTC, AR  
Commanding

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