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Flying Operations

AIRPORT QUALIFICATION PROGRAM

COMPLIANCE WITH THIS PUBLICATION IS MANDATORY

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This instruction implements AFD 11-2, *Flight Rules and Procedures*, to establish the Airport Qualification Program (AQP), preparing aircrew members for global operations. The program consists of developing, producing, and maintaining AQP audiovisual documentaries of selected worldwide airports frequently transited by AMC aircrews. These AQP videos highlight significant terrain, safety hazards, and other unique operating characteristics at these airports. Reporting requirements in this directive are exempt from licensing according to AFI 37-124, *The Information Collections and Reports Management Program; Controlling Internal, Public, and Interagency Air Force Information Collections*, paragraph 2.11.10. This instruction does not apply to Air National Guard and United States Air Force Reserve units.

Section A—Concept of Operations

1. General.

1.1. AMC aircrews transit numerous airports around the world. Many airports present unique safety hazards or operating procedures for these aircrews. To maintain global capability, AMC Combat Operations and Training (HQ AMC/DOT), in concert with the AMC System Support, Visual Information Branch (HQ AMC/SCMV) and the Tanker Airlift Control Center (TACC), will direct Numbered Air Force (NAF) standardization and training (DOVT), the wing operations support squadron (OSS) training branch (OSOT), and combat camera squadrons (CTCS) to provide support in developing new audiovisual products for select airports. HQ AMC/DOT will review and approve any additions, changes, or deletions to AQP documentaries library before distribution through AMC.

1.2. Inflight video recording of approaches to airfields is the primary means to obtain appropriate materials for AQP program development. Recording is authorized on any AMC aircraft, depending on the compatibility of the aircraft's electrical system and the aircraft's ability to provide a stable mounting surface for cameras. Scheduling an aircraft suited to perform this mission requires coordination between HQ AMC/DOT, TACC Communications and Computers, Visual Information Division (SCOV), TACC Current Operations (XOO), NAFs, and operating wings.

1.3. Each AQP documentary requires an aircraft to fly instrument and circling approaches to both ends of all usable runways during approximately 1-2 hours of flying time. Documentaries normally require day, visual flight rule (VFR) conditions; however, when possible and applicable, documentation may occur in austere conditions to emphasize characteristic local conditions, e.g. fog.

1.3.1. Aircrews will fly multiple low approaches when necessary to complete an AQP recording. This activity may require prior coordination with the host country's air traffic control agencies.

1.3.2. Recording taxiways and parking ramps for familiarization is also an objective of AQP. Documentation teams may record taxiways and parking ramps at a selected airport if the documentation does not disrupt the airfield's current operations or mission scheduling. The aircraft commander flying the documentation sortie must ensure the documentation team obtains approval from the airfield manager prior to filming taxiways and ramps.

1.3.3. If necessary, documentation personnel may stand on the flight deck during critical phases of flight. Documentation personnel will coordinate their specific requirements with the aircraft commander. Ground and inflight safety will not be compromised to facilitate audiovisual documentation.

1.4. If an existing AQP video does not contain information on taxiways and parking ramps, the video will not be reaccomplished or updated solely to include this information except under extraordinary circumstances affecting safety.

1.5. Mission-qualified pilots will provide expertise and guidance during mission planning and inflight, and during the editing phases of each program.

1.6. Agencies sending message traffic relative to AQP or the program's documentation activities are requested to include HQ AMC/DOT, HQ AMC/SCMV, and TACC/SCOV as message addressees. If the message concerns current or ongoing documentation activities, message addressees should also include the assigned CTCS, appropriate NAF, and wing and operational squadrons participating in the documentation activities.

Section B—Tasks

2. AMC Directorate of Operations (HQ AMC/DO).

2.1. HQ AMC/DO is responsible for overall AQP management, establishing training criteria, developing mission objectives, stimulating cooperation between agencies for support requirements, and program funding.

2.2. The AMC Combat Operations and Training Division (HQ AMC/DOT) is the command OPR for the program. DOT will maintain a list of airports with significant terrain and obstacle hazards, safety hazards, or other unique operating characteristics as an AQP database. TACC, NAF/DOVT, and operations group standardization will recommend changes to this database based on AMC's current route structure and operational considerations.

2.3. In coordination with HQ AMC/SCMV, HQ AMC/DOT will advise the AMC Comptroller (HQ AMC/FM) of current and future budget requirements.

2.4. In coordination with TACC/SCOV and the NAFs, DOT will establish fiscal year documentation schedules. NAFs will screen unit inputs and send requests for new AQP products to DOT.

- 2.5. DOT will review each new documentary (or documentary update) for accuracy prior to release.
- 2.6. DOT will coordinate with the US Army Visual Information Center, Tobyhanna, Pennsylvania, for reproducing the master videotape and cataloging and distributing videotape documentaries.

3. AMC NAFs.

3.1. NAFs will provide support to meet AQP production efforts, and, in coordination with their operations group standardization (OVG) and operation support squadron training branch (OSS/OSOT), will solicit pilots and navigators as subject matter experts (SME) for new and revised videos. SMEs will develop and coordinate scripts with OGV and OSOT for validity. The SME will send airfield information, scripts, potential changes to existing documentaries, and AQP material on subject airfields to the Air Education Training Command (AETC) Training Support Squadron/Media Production Flight (TRSS/TSM), Hill AFBUT 84056-5817, for post-production editing. SMEs will attend post-production editing at the AETC TRSS video production facility. AMC headquarters will provide funding for SME activity related to AQP video production.

3.2. NAF/DOVTs will validate AQP mission requirements with the TACC Mobility Management Division (XOOM).

3.3. NAF DOVTs are tasked to ensure documentaries remain valid. NAFs are responsible for an annual review of AQP products for their respective area of responsibility. HQ AMC/DOT will develop an annual review schedule and assign specific airfield video documentaries to each NAF.

3.3.1. NAF DOVTs will task active duty AMC units to annually review AQP products to ensure accuracy and content.

3.3.2. NAFs will screen unit inputs and send AQP revision requests to DOT for input into the documentation schedule.

4. Tanker Airlift Control Center.

4.1. TACC/SCOV will task combat camera squadrons to supply personnel and services in support of documentation activities.

4.2. Current operations (XOO) will task project tanker and airlift support in coordination with NAFs. The AQP camera-person or photographer will operate on any mission funded from the Operations and Maintenance or Defense Business Operations Fund-Transportation Program.

4.3. TACC/XOO or Command and Control (TACC/XOC) will obtain permission and diplomatic clearances for AQP filming from the host countries.

4.4. TACC/XOO will inform HQ AMC/DOT of changes in worldwide mobility taskings that may require development of additional AQP documentaries.

5. HQ AMC/SCMV. Will validate AQP post-production support requests.

6. AETC Training Support Squadron (TRSS).

6.1. The AETC TRSS Media Production Flight (TSM) will produce formal documentaries according to established formats. HQ AMC/DOT, NAF DOVTs, or the SME will send airfield information,

scripts, potential changes to existing documentaries, and AQP material on subject airfields to the AETC TRSS/TSM for post-production editing.

6.2. TRSS is responsible for tasking contract activities when necessary regarding art and graphics requirements for individual projects.

6.3. AMC headquarters will provide funding for AETC TRSS services and travel as required to support AQP activity.

7. AMC Combat Camera Squadrons (CTCS).

7.1. The CTCS will provide aerial qualified documentation personnel to accomplish on-scene AQP videotaping.

7.2. The CTCS will establish liaison with assigned SMEs to review prepared scripts and specific AQP documentation activity requirements. The assigned CTCS will process AQP media and send material to the AETC training support squadron.

7.3. Aeronautical orders will authorize additional crewmember (ACM) status for the assigned CTCS members participating in an AQP documentation according to AFI 11-401, *Flight Management*. Travel funding for CTCS personnel is the responsibility of AMC headquarters.

8. AMC Wings.

8.1. Will support taskings as necessary to meet the requirements of this instruction.

8.2. Wing current operations will assist TACC/XOO or TACC/XOC as necessary in obtaining diplomatic clearances for an AQP filming from the host countries.

8.3. Prior to flight, aircraft commanders flying AQP documentation sorties will check with TACC/XOC, TACC/SCOV, or wing current operations to ensure permission has been granted from the host country to conduct audiovisual recording of their airfield.

9. Control. HQ AMC/DOTA will be the focal point for all AQP activities, DSN 576-5305.

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Director of Operations