

STRIKE FIGHTER SQUADRON 11 - VFA-11 (N09560)

ALL CVN Class Ships and ISICs ()

ALL DDG Class Ships and ISICs ()

ALL FFG Class Ships and ISICs ()

ALL HORNET AIRCRAFT ACTIVITIES ()

ALL ATC ACTIVITIES ()

ALL ROTARY WING AIRCRAFT ACTIVITIES ()

ALL AMPHIBIOUS SHIPS (Aviation Only) ()

ALL TACAIR AIRCRAFT ACTIVITIES ()

ALL UAV COMMANDS ()

ALL CG Class Ships and ISICs ()

Classification: ~~UNCLASSIFIED FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY (FOUO)~~

From: STRIKE FIGHTER SQUADRON 11 - VFA-11 N09560

Subject: HAZARD REPORT OF, Unidentified aerial vehicles operating in W-72 without coordinating with controlling agencies., Class HAZARD FLIGHT, General Hazard HAZARD - GENERAL

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References:

A. OPNAVINST 3750.6 SERIES

B. JAGINST 5800.7 SERIES

1. General Information:

A. Hazard Severity: HAZARD, Classification: FLIGHT HAZARD - GENERAL

B. WESS Serial Number: 1398374727732

C. Local Serial Number: 09-14

D. RAC: 03 - MODERATE RISK

E. Endorser:

F. Event: Operating in exclusive-use W-72 Air 2A and 2B, Hazard aircrew (HAC) noticed two radar trackfiles in 2A that were not communicating with the controlling agency or other aircraft. Radar indicated Hazard Unidentified Aerial Device (HUAD) 1 at 0.0 Mach and 15 thousand feet. HUAD2 indicated 12 thousand feet traveling at 0.0 Mach. HAC used multiple on-board sensors to verify that HUAD1 and HUAD2 were small IR significant objects and not false radar track files. While tracking HUAD2 on radar and forward looking infrared (FLIR,) two additional, non radar-significant objects, HUAD3 and HUAD4, were seen flying through the FLIR field-of-view at a high speed at a distance between the HAC and HUAD2, approximately 5 NM away.

G. Hazard Date, Local: April 23, 2014

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Ref: SECNAVINST 5720.42, OPNAVINST 3750.6 Series and OPNAVINST 5102.1 Series.

H. Hazard Time, Local: 2251

I. Time Zone: R

J. Condition: NIGHT

2. Data:

A. Reporting Activity: STRIKE FIGHTER SQUADRON 11 - VFA-11 N09560

B. Aircraft or UAV:

B1.

(1) Aircraft: F/A-18F

(2) BUNO: 166623

(3) Reporting Custodian: N09560 - STRIKE FIGHTER SQUADRON 11 - VFA-11

(4) Controlling Custodian: COMNAVAIRLANT (CNAL)

(5) Departure Location:

(6) Destination:

(7) # Aircrew: 2

(8) # Injured Aircrew: 0

(9) # Passengers: 0

(10) # Injured Passengers: 0

(11) TMR: 1A1

(12) VMC/IMC N

3. Environment:

A. Hazard Location Description: ATLANTIC OCEAN (GENERAL) W-72 2A

B. Hazard Country: UNITED STATES

C. Hazard State: VIRGINIA

D. Latitude: 36 16 28 N

E. Longitude: 075 24 04 W

F. Location: -

4. Weather:

A. Briefed By: PILOT

B. Briefing Utilization: USED

C. Air Temp: F

D. Relative Humidity:

E. Dewpoint: F

F. Water Temp: F

G. Wind Direction:

H. Wind Gust:

I. Ceiling Agl (100s ft):

J. Sky Condition: SKC

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- K. Horizon: VISIBLE
- L. Visibility Statute Miles:
- M. Altimeter Setting:
- N. Icing: N
- O. Obstruction of Vision:
- P. Precipitation:
- Q. Extreme WX:
- R. Briefing Accuracy: NOT APPL

5. Damage and Hazard Cost:

- A. Non-DoD Damaged/Destroyed Property: \$0.00
- B. DoD Damaged/Destroyed Property: \$0.00
- C. Total Hazard Cost: \$0.00

6. Factors:

6A. ACCEPTED CAUSE FACTORS

- A. Special - UADs in controlled airspace without coordination.

(1) Analysis: UADs operating in controlled airspace without prior coordination and communication pose a severe threat to Naval Aviation.

7. Recommendations:

- A. Recommendation: #1

(1) Description: Brief to all UAV operators.

(2) Remarks:

(3) Action Agency: ALL UAV COMMANDS

(4) Applies To:

(a) Type: SPECIAL FACTOR

(b) Statement: UADs in controlled airspace without coordination.

- B. Recommendation: #2

(1) Description: Brief to all activities operating within W-72.

(2) Remarks:

(3) Action Agency: ALL TACAIR AIRCRAFT ACTIVITIES

(4) Applies To:

(a) Type: SPECIAL FACTOR

(b) Statement: UADs in controlled airspace without coordination.

- C. Recommendation: #3

(1) Description: Brief to all activities operating within W-72.

(2) Remarks:

(3) Action Agency: ALL AMPHIBIOUS SHIPS (Aviation Only)

(4) Applies To:

(a) Type: SPECIAL FACTOR

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- (b) Statement: UADs in controlled airspace without coordination.
- D. Recommendation: #4
- (1) Description: Brief to all activities operating within W-72.
  - (2) Remarks:
  - (3) Action Agency: ALL CG Class Ships and ISICs
  - (4) Applies To:
    - (a) Type: SPECIAL FACTOR
    - (b) Statement: UADs in controlled airspace without coordination.
- E. Recommendation: #5
- (1) Description: Brief to all activities operating within W-72.
  - (2) Remarks:
  - (3) Action Agency: ALL CVN Class Ships and ISICs
  - (4) Applies To:
    - (a) Type: SPECIAL FACTOR
    - (b) Statement: UADs in controlled airspace without coordination.
- F. Recommendation: #6
- (1) Description: Brief to all activities operating within W-72.
  - (2) Remarks:
  - (3) Action Agency: ALL DDG Class Ships and ISICs
  - (4) Applies To:
    - (a) Type: SPECIAL FACTOR
    - (b) Statement: UADs in controlled airspace without coordination.
- G. Recommendation: #7
- (1) Description: Brief to all activities operating within W-72.
  - (2) Remarks:
  - (3) Action Agency: ALL FFG Class Ships and ISICs
  - (4) Applies To:
    - (a) Type: SPECIAL FACTOR
    - (b) Statement: UADs in controlled airspace without coordination.
- H. Recommendation: #8
- (1) Description: Brief to all activities operating within W-72.
  - (2) Remarks:
  - (3) Action Agency: ALL ROTARY WING AIRCRAFT ACTIVITIES
  - (4) Applies To:
    - (a) Type: SPECIAL FACTOR
    - (b) Statement: UADs in controlled airspace without coordination.
- I. Recommendation: #9
- (1) Description: Brief to all activities operating within W-72.
  - (2) Remarks:
  - (3) Action Agency: ALL ATC ACTIVITIES
  - (4) Applies To:

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(a) Type: SPECIAL FACTOR

(b) Statement: UADs in controlled airspace without coordination.

8. CO Comments:

A. N09560 - STRIKE FIGHTER SQUADRON 11 - VFA-11

(1) Although this report is primarily submitted for tracking purposes, it is only a matter of time before this results in a midair in W-72. This was the squadron's second occurrence in the last ten months. The operation of UAVs and other aerial devices must be properly coordinated and communicated to keep aircrew informed and safe.

9. Point of Contact:

A. Name: LCDR (b)(6)

B. Phone (b)(6) DSN: (b)(6)

C. Email (b)(6)

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