

ALL ATC ACTIVITIES ()

ALL TACAIR AIRCRAFT ACTIVITIES ()

ALL UAV COMMANDS ()

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

From: STRIKE FIGHTER SQUADRON 11 - VFA-11 N09560

Subject: HAZARD REPORT OF, NEAR MID-AIR WITH UNKNOWN AIRCRAFT, Class HAZARD FLIGHT, NEAR MID-AIR HAZARD - NEAR MID-AIR

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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 - NEAR MID-AIR
- B. WESS Serial Number: 1372355853714
- C. Local Serial Number: 04-13
- D. RAC: 03 - MODERATE RISK
- E. Endorser:

F. Event: Hazard Flight (HF) was a scheduled BFM event in W-72 TACTS South exclusive use airspace. While operating in assigned airspace, Hazard Aircraft (HA) was near the southern border of exclusive use assigned airspace when Hazard Aircrew (HAC) visually acquired an aircraft pass down the right side of their aircraft with approximately 200 feet of lateral separation. HA was at 17,000 MSL in a descending northwesterly turn when the aircraft was spotted. The aircraft was heading southeast in a climb with a visible contrail or smoke plume emitting from the aft section. The aircraft was at 3-9 line passage before HAC visually acquired it. The HF had no radar return on the aircraft. The aircraft was white in color and approximately the size and shape of a drone or missile. After the close pass, the object was not seen again and aircrew notified the controlling agency to determine if they had radar awareness to any other aircraft working in the area. They did not. HF recovered without further incident. ASAP was logged post-flight and follow-up phone calls were made to determine if other agencies were conducting drone flights or missile shoots in the area. CSFWL contacted operating units but no one reported operations of this nature. FACS FACVACAPES reviewed radar tapes and no aircraft was identified or noted in the area. No NOTAMS or TFRs were published regarding drone or missile operations in the HF working area during time of flight.

- G. Hazard Date, Local: June 27, 2013
- H. Hazard Time, Local: 1220
- I. Time Zone: R

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

J. Condition: DAY

2. Data:

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

B. Aircraft or UAV:

B1.

(1) Aircraft:

(2) BUNO: 166631

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

(4) Controlling Custodian: COMNAVAIRLANT (CNAL)

(5) Departure Location: OCEANA NAS

(6) Destination: OCEANA NAS, UNITED STATES

(7) # Aircrew: 2

(8) # Injured Aircrew: 0

(9) # Passengers: 0

(10) # Injured Passengers: 0

(11) TMR: 1A6

(12) VMC/IMC N

B2.

(13) Aircraft: UNKNOWN

(14) BUNO: 000000

(15) Reporting Custodian: OUNKWN - OTHER UNKNOWN

(16) Controlling Custodian: PENDING

(17) Departure Location: OCEANA NAS

(18) Destination: OCEANA NAS, UNITED STATES

(19) # Aircrew:

(20) # Injured Aircrew:

(21) # Passengers:

(22) # Injured Passengers:

(23) TMR: 1a1

(24) VMC/IMC N

3. Environment:

A. Hazard Location Description: ATLANTIC OCEAN (MID - MIDLANT) W-72 (3A/3B)

B. Hazard Country: UNITED STATES

C. Hazard State: VIRGINIA

D. Latitude: 36 49 21 N

E. Longitude: 076 01 54 W

F. Location: KNTU - OCEANA NAS

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4. Weather:

- A. Briefed By: FORECASTER
- B. Briefing Utilization: NOT APP
- C. Air Temp: 32 F
- D. Relative Humidity: 65
- E. Dewpoint: 23 F
- F. Water Temp: 66 F
- G. Wind Direction: 220
- H. Wind Gust: 25
- I. Ceiling Agl (100s ft):
- J. Sky Condition: SKC
- K. Horizon: VISIBLE
- L. Visibility Statute Miles: 10.0
- M. Altimeter Setting: 29.76
- 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 - Unknown agency failed to notify facilities of hazardous operations.
 - (1) Analysis: Organization failed to notify the airspace controlling agency of hazardous operations to airmen in a military operating area. When queried, the controlling agency had no situational awareness of other aircraft or unmanned vehicles operating in the exclusive use airspace.

7. Recommendations:

- A. Recommendation: #1
 - (1) Description: Brief to all aircrew.
 - (2) Remarks:
 - (3) Action Agency: ALL TACAIR AIRCRAFT ACTIVITIES
 - (4) Applies To:
 - (a) Type: SPECIAL FACTOR
 - (b) Statement: Unknown agency failed to notify facilities of hazardous operations.
- B. Recommendation: #2

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- (1) Description: Brief to all controlling agencies.
- (2) Remarks:
- (3) Action Agency: ALL ATC ACTIVITIES
- (4) Applies To:
 - (a) Type: SPECIAL FACTOR
 - (b) Statement: Unknown agency failed to notify facilities of hazardous operations.

C. Recommendation: #3

- (1) Description: Brief to all UAV Agencies.
- (2) Remarks:
- (3) Action Agency: ALL UAV COMMANDS
- (4) Applies To:
 - (a) Type: SPECIAL FACTOR
 - (b) Statement: Unknown agency failed to notify facilities of hazardous operations.

8. CO Comments:

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

- (1) Unmanned aerial vehicles represent a significant mid-air collision threat. Aircrew need to continue to ensure they are properly briefing the UAV mid-air threat in military operating areas. Additionally, operators of UAVs must ensure they use all lines of communication available to heighten awareness of the presence of UAVs in heavy traffic military areas and follow the same guidelines set for restricted airspace.

9. Point of Contact:

- A. Name: LCDR (b)(6)
- B. Phone: (b)(6) DSN:
- C. Email (b)(6)

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