

30 OCTOBER 1998



Operations

RESTRICTED AREA/DANGER ZONE ENTRY

COMPLIANCE WITH THIS PUBLICATION IS MANDATORY

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This instruction designates a single point of contact for all requests to enter the restricted airspace over Vandenberg Air Force Base (AFB) and ocean surface Danger Zone 4 offshore from Vandenberg AFB. The restricted areas and Danger Zone 4 were established by the Department of Defense directives as security measures to “prevent the close-in observation of missile activities.” Recognizing that some requesters have legitimate reasons for entering the restricted areas and Danger Zone 4, this instruction explains the 30th Space Wing (30 SW) policy to enter these areas. This instruction applies to all 30 SW organizations and provides guidance for other agencies requesting permission to fly in the restricted airspace or enter surface Danger Zone 4.

SUMMARY OF REVISIONS

The revision of this publication is to meet the format standards required by the Air Force. No content material has changed. Some required format changes have been made to allow for the conversion process.

1. Responsibilities:

- 1.1. All 30 SW organizations will promptly forward all requests to enter restricted airspace over Vandenberg AFB or surface Danger Zone 4 to the 30th Range Squadron Airspace and Offshore Management Section (30 RANS/DOUN).
- 1.2. 30 RANS/DOUN will be the approving authority for all requests to enter the restricted airspace over Vandenberg AFB or to enter Danger Zone 4. It shall ensure the use of the restricted areas and surface Danger Zone 4 are in keeping with the purpose for which they were established. It will review and coordinate with the appropriate offices on entry requests and prepare a response memorandum per both 30 SW policy and operational considerations.
- 1.3. The 30th Space Wing Operations Security Office (30 SW/XPOO) will review photographs taken by units that are given permission to overfly restricted airspace or enter Danger Zone 4.

1.4. The 30th Range Squadron Range Operations Officer (30 RANS/DO) is responsible for the real-time management of all range operating areas.

1.5. The 30th Range Squadron Tasking Section (30 RANS/DOUS) ensures all operations in the restricted areas and surface Danger Zone 4 are properly approved and authorized before they are assigned an operation number and the requested entry is scheduled.

2. General Provisions: There are several airspace restricted areas and offshore danger zones associated with Vandenberg AFB. Restricted Area 2517 is not opened to outside agencies (exclusive 30 SW use) unless specific written entry permission is given by the Commander, 30 SW. The stopping or loitering of vessels is expressly prohibited within Danger Zone 4, unless prior permission is obtained from the Commander, 30 SW. The purpose of these restricted areas and Danger Zone 4 is to contain hazardous operations and enhance security by preventing "close in" observation of missile facilities. Therefore, during range operations the airspace and selected Danger Zones are closed as appropriate and at other times entry is controlled for safety and security reasons. There are nine Danger Zones extending from Point Sal to Point Conception which are selectively closed at frequent and irregular intervals for hazardous range operations.

3. Restricted Area and Danger Zone 4 Entry Policy: 30 RANS/DOUN will approve requests for operations in restricted area airspace and surface Danger Zone 4 as long as they comply with the purpose for which the restricted areas and Danger Zone 4 were established. Requests will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis and approved on their individual merits in conjunction with the status of military operations activities. In emergency cases involving immediate threat to life, limb or safety of flight, authorizations for immediate passage through restricted areas may be granted by Vandenberg Control Tower, FRONTIER CONTROL, or Los Angeles Air Route Traffic Control Center (ARTCC).

4. Procedures:

4.1. 30 SW organizations will refer restricted areas or danger zone entry requests to 30 RANS/DOUN, Bldg. 7000, 816 13th Street, Suite C, Vandenberg AFB CA 93437-5233. Submit requests, in writing, at least 10 working days before the requested entry. The requests should identify a point of contact, contain the purpose of the entry request, and indicate the date and time for which entry is requested.

4.2. 30 RANS/DOUN will:

4.2.1. Review all requests to enter restricted airspace over Vandenberg AFB and surface Danger Zone 4.

4.2.2. Coordinate the incoming requests as required with the 30 SW/XPOO, and 30 RANS/DOUS.

4.2.3. Draft an appropriate outgoing response memorandum and forward with the corresponding instruction sheet, to the requesting agency. **Attachment 2**, Sample Overflight Request Memorandum and **Attachment 3**, Sample Danger Zone 4 Entry request Memorandum are sample response memorandums, and **Attachment 4**, Vandenberg AFB Danger Zone Information and **Attachment 5**, Restricted Area Flight Instructions, are the instruction sheets.

4.2.4. Coordinate the response memorandum with all appropriate agencies.

4.2.5. Ensure the response memorandum is properly distributed.

4.3. 30 SW/XPOO will expedite review of all entry requests involving photography.

4.4. 30 RANS/DO will:

4.4.1. Ensure FRONTIER CONTROL clears only properly authorized and scheduled operations into the restricted areas and surface Danger Zone 4.

4.4.2. Ensure FRONTIER CONTROL coordinates the overflights with other control agencies as appropriate.

4.4.3. Ensure the operations associated with the entry approval comply with the conditions in the entry approval.

4.5. 30 RANS/DOUS will:

4.5.1. Schedule properly approved restricted areas and surface danger Zone 4 operations on a noninterference basis to range mission operations.

4.5.2. Schedule operations that enter the restricted areas and surface Danger Zone 4 only after approval and according to the restrictions and conditions contained in the approval memorandum.

4.5.3. Coordinate operations associated with the entry approvals with the 30 Space Wing Command Post (30 SW/CP).

EDWARD L. BOLTON, Lt Col, USAF
Commander, 30th Range Squadron

Attachment 1**GLOSSARY OF REFERENCES AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION***Terms*

Control Tower—Provides Visual Flight Rules air traffic control service to aircraft within Vandenberg AFB Class D airspace.

FRONTIER CONTROL—Voice call sign for the Western Range Area Control Center.

Los Angeles Air Route Control Center (ZLA)—An FAA air traffic control facility providing service to the Southwest, located in Palmdale, California.

Restricted Area—Airspace designated under Federal Aviation Regulation Part 73 and identified by an area on the surface of the land or waters of a state within which the flight of aircraft, while not wholly prohibited, is subject to restrictions.

Surface Danger Zones—Areas designated in Title 33 CFR 334.1130 and identified by an area on the ocean surface extending three nautical miles seaward from the shoreline of Vandenberg AFB within which marine traffic, while not prohibited, is subject to regulation.

Attachment 2

SAMPLE OVERFLIGHT REQUEST MEMORANDUM

MEMORANDUM FOR (Addressee)

FROM: 30 RANS/DOUN

SUBJECT: Overflight Request

1. Your request to enter restricted airspace over Vandenberg AFB is granted for flight (s) between _____ for the purpose of _____
2. The approval granted herein is expressly contingent UPON your agreement to follow all instructions and requirements discussed in the attachment to this memorandum.
3. If there are any questions, contact the Airspace and Offshore Management Section at (805) 734-8232 ext. 6-3602.

JACK F. COPELAND, JR.

Airspace and Offshore Management Section

Attachment:

Instruction Sheet

cc: 30 SW/CP/XPOO

30 RANS/DOU/DOUS/DOUF/DOUB

Attachment 3**SAMPLE DANGER ZONE 4 ENTRY REQUEST MEMORANDUM**

MEMORANDUM FOR (Addressee)

FROM: 30 RANS/DOUN

SUBJECT: Permit to Enter Danger Zone 4

1. Permission is granted for the vessel identified in the request to enter Danger Zone 4 at Vandenberg AFB for the purpose of conducting _____ operations. This approval is valid for the period _____ . Instructions for entering Danger Zone 4 are as follow:

2. The approval granted herein is expressly contingent UPON your agreement to follow all instructions and requirements discussed in the attachment to this memorandum.

3. If there are any questions, contact the Airspace and Offshore Management Section at (805) 734-8232 ext. 6-3602

JACK F. COPELAND, JR.

Airspace and Offshore Management Section

Attachment:

Instruction Sheet

cc: 30 SW/CP/XPOO

30 RANS/DOU/DOUS/DOUF/DOUB

Attachment 4

VANDENBERG AFB DANGER ZONE INFORMATION

A4.1. The closure areas shown on the reverse of this notice are designed for the protection of life and property and the preservation of security for national defense missile programs. The full cooperation of all small craft operators is requested.

A4.2. Zone closure information will be broadcast by the USAF Western Range (WR) from Vandenberg AFB, call sign **“FRONTIER CONTROL”**. This information will be broadcast on **156.3 MHz (Marine Channel 6)** and **156.8 MHz (Marine Channel 16)** at 0900 hours and 1200 hours, local time, daily except Saturday, Sunday, and holidays.

A4.3. The dangerous firing zones are established in conformance with provisions of the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 33, Part 334.430. The zones as published should be considered primarily as guide lines for hazardous surface operations. In many instances the hazardous conditions will exist to seaward in excess of the 3 mile limit. As a general rule, when a zone is indicated as being hazardous to surface operations, boat operators **should not** assume that the area abutting the zone to seaward is safe from fall-out of missile debris.

A4.4. The stopping or loitering of vessels is expressly prohibited within **Danger Zone 4**, unless prior written permission is obtained from the Airspace and Offshore Management Office, 30th Range Squadron, Vandenberg Air Force Base.

Mailing address:

30 RANS/DOUN

816 13th Street, Suite C

Vandenberg AFB, CA 93437-5233

Telephone:

(805) 734-8232 ext. 6-3602

FAX:

(805) 734-8232 ext. 5-2663

A4.5. Small craft operators are invited to call **“FRONTIER CONTROL”** on **156.3 MHz** or **156.8 MHz** any time when they are in difficulty or in distress. When the Western Range has patrol craft or aircraft in the area, assistance will be rendered if possible. Any other time the US Coast Guard will be alerted.

A4.6. Danger Zone status can be obtained by calling **(800) 648-3019**. Personnel at **“FRONTIER CONTROL”** can be reached by radio or by telephoning **(805) 734-8232 ext. 6-4508 or 6-4472**, Monday through Friday from 0745 to 1545 hours for any additional information desired.

Attachment 5**RESTRICTED AREA FLIGHT INSTRUCTIONS**

The following instructions provide guidance for scheduling and conducting the requested flights in restricted areas at Vandenberg AFB:

A5.1. Call the 30th Range Squadron's Airspace and Offshore Management Office at **(805) 734-8232 ext. 6-5144**, at least 24 hours prior to each flight if any photographs are to be taken. They must review any photography made during the flight. Arrangements for the review can be made with them. You must agree to surrender, without charge, the negatives and prints of any photography determined by the government to contain classified or sensitive information.

A5.2. Schedule each flight with the 30th Range Squadron Tasking Office at **(805) 734-8232 ext. 6-8825**. The flight(s) may be made at the requester's discretion within the approved time subject to scheduling office restrictions to avoid conflicts with other operations. The scheduling office will provide an "Operations Number" for each flight which should be used in all subsequent telephone and radio contact.

A5.3. Contact the Western Range Control Center, call sign "**FRONTIER CONTROL**" on VHF **121.4 MHz** or UHF **296.5 MHz** prior to entering and departing the restricted area at Vandenberg. FRONTIER CONTROL will coordinate the flight with Vandenberg Tower and Los Angeles Center. FRONTIER CONTROL may be called prior to takeoff by telephone at **(805) 734-8232, ext. 6-4472** or **6-4508**.

A5.4. .If you use an aircraft other than the one identified in the basic memorandum, advise the 30th Range Squadron Tasking Office and FRONTIER CONTROL prior to takeoff.