Subject: R-2508 Complex Cross-Talk System

Area of Concern: All Aviation Operations in the R-2508 Complex

Distribution: All Aviation Users

Discussion: The R-2508 Complex (the Complex) is an important Special Use Airspace [SUA] comprised of both restricted airspace and Military Operating Areas (MOAs) and is heavily used for various military activities such as bombing ranges, supersonic corridors, low altitude high speed maneuvers, radar intercept areas, and refueling areas. The Complex includes all the airspace and associated land presently used and managed by the three principal military activities in the Upper Mojave Desert Region: the Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake, the Air Force Flight Test Center (AFFTC)/Edwards AFB, and National Training Center (NTC)/Ft. Irwin.

After a near mid-air between a fire helicopter and a military aircraft, a Cross-Talk System was established in the 1980s to enable agency and military aircraft to monitor “in the blind” transmissions in this area when triggered by OVCC Dispatch during Initial Attack Responses. When the Chief Information Office (CIO) took over maintenance of radio systems, the Cross-Talk system was not recognized and therefore not maintained. However, recent airspace events have revitalized the need for the “Cross-Talk”, and the system is currently being re-established with the goal of having all three initial sites stood back up in the next few months.

Aircraft flying in the area should periodically transmit their location, heading and altitude “in the blind” over Air Guard (RX/TX 168.6250: RX/TX Tone 1) using georeferenced points noted in the R-2508 User Handbook and other common geographic references. Position reports given in the blind are not meant to be acknowledged and may be limited based on the user’s level of familiarity with MOA locations, Sidewinder route segments and Geo Reference points as identified within the R-2508 LOA and R-2508 Complex “Users Handbook.”


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