



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS 62D AIRLIFT WING (AMC)

11 July 2011

MEMORANDUM FOR WASHINGTON AIRFIELD MANAGERS

FROM: 62d Airlift Wing Safety
100 Col Joe Jackson Blvd, Suite 1071
JBLM, McChord Field, WA 98438

SUBJECT: RODEO 2011 International Flying Competition, 18-30 July

1. Greetings from the McChord Field Safety Team. We feel very fortunate to have such an excellent working relationship between our military flight operations and the general aviation community here in the great state of Washington. Thank you for all you do to ensure that flying remains both fun and safe. I hope this summer brings you a season of enjoyable, mishap-free flight operations.
2. One of the greatest assets any aviator has is his/her situational awareness. In an effort to raise everyone's awareness, I would like to bring your attention to a major flying competition being hosted by McChord Field – the Air Mobility Command RODEO 2011. RODEO is a week-long competition showcasing and evaluating the aviation skills of military airlift and airdrop crews from all over the world. These crews will compete in Aerial Refueling, Time Control, Low-Level Routes, and Airdrop operations. In addition to increased activity in the McChord traffic pattern, U.S. and foreign C-17, C-130, and T-1 aircraft will be flying 24-hour, day and night VFR low level routes across large portions of Washington. Enclosed you'll find a flyer on mid-air collision avoidance (MACA) with pictures of the aircraft and the dates of the competition. Although RODEO is an exciting and rewarding experience, it does create an increased potential for conflicts and mishaps in Washington's crowded airspace.
3. Hopefully, this brief overview of this year's RODEO activities helps to raise your awareness and allow you to plan accordingly for your flights. Please be especially cognizant of the increase in large aircraft in McChord's visual and radar traffic patterns, and flying VFR low-level routes across Central and Eastern Washington from July 18th thru 30th. Also, please help us by spreading the word to any and all flying activities at your airfield, and display the flyers in areas frequented by your pilots. Together we can reduce the potential for air-traffic-related aviation mishaps. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at (253) 982-3105. Thanks again for your dedication and aviation enthusiasm.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. S. King", written over a circular stamp or mark.

JASON S. KING Lt Col, USAF
Chief of Safety