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PROJECT HEADQUARTERS
DIRECTIVE 50-10-25

OPERATIONS
15 SEPTEMBER 1971

Supersedes PHD #50-10-25 dated 16 February 1970

INITIAL PILOT QUALIFICATION IN U-2 AIRCRAFT

1. PURPOSE:

To establish a program that will provide the minimum training necessary for initial pilot qualification in U-2 aircraft.

2. RESPONSIBILITY:

Commander Detachment "G" will:

a. Insure compliance with the provisions of this directive.

b. Consider the requirements of this directive as minimum requirements and provide additional training as required.

c. Publish a training syllabus, [redacted] which includes lesson plans, mission guides, questionnaires and other detailed instructions necessary for the conduct of the training program.

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3. GENERAL:

a. Prior to any U-2 flight training, pilots will have satisfactorily completed physical examinations, pressure suit fittings and altitude chamber indoctrination.

b. Prior to initiating U-2 flight training, familiarization training in the T-33 aircraft will have been completed. Qualification will be accomplished in accordance with AFM 51-33 prior to U-2 training.

c. Within the fourteen day period prior to the first solo U-2 flight a qualified U-2 instructor pilot will demonstrate U-2 flight characteristics to the transition pilot. This demonstration will be simulated in a T-33 or support aircraft.

d. The first U-2 mission will require a T-33 chase aircraft with a U-2 pilot to observe air work maneuvers. In addition, a utility aircraft with a U-2 pilot will be assigned

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Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

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as the chase aircraft in the traffic pattern. Chase aircraft for subsequent missions will be as determined by the instructor pilot.

e. Upon completion of training leading to initial qualification in the U-2, [REDACTED] pilots may be upgraded to operationally ready (O/R) status at the discretion of Commander, Detachment "G". [REDACTED] pilots completing initial qualification in the U-2 at Detachment "G" will be upgraded to O/R following their return to Detachment "H" and at the discretion of the Commander, Detachment "H". The provisions of Project Headquarters Directive 50-10-1 will apply for all U-2 pilots.

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f. A tracker camera will be operated on each training mission to provide a visual record of aircraft track and a basis for assessing the pilot's ability to adhere to the briefed flight route.

4. TRAINING PROCEDURES:

a. Specialized T-33 Training:

(1) This training is in addition to the requirements outlined in AFM 51-33 and its purpose is to:

(a) Familiarize the pilot with the local flying area and FAA enroute and approach procedures.

(b) Evaluate instrument flying proficiency to include additional instrument training, if required.

(c) Simulate U-2 flight and approach-to-stall characteristics.

(d) Provide practice in U-2 traffic pattern procedures.

(e) Familiarize students with [REDACTED] landing procedures.

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b. U-2 Training:

(1) U-2 ground training for all pilots will consist of 65 hours minimum.

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The minimum requirements for this training will consist of the following:

- (a) Aircraft General.
- (b) Engine/Fuel System
- (c) Oxygen/Air Conditioning/Pressurization Systems.
- (d) Hydraulic System/Flight Controls.
- (e) Landing Gear/Brakes/Primary Flight Controls.
- (f) Electrical System/Aircraft Lighting/Electronic Systems.
- (g) Communications/Annunciator Panel.
- (h) Autopilot/AFCS and FRS Compass and Navigation System.
- (i) Instruments/Doppler.
- (j) High Altitude Navigation Map Reading/Viewsight
- (k) Cruise Control/Flight Log/Flight Planning Procedures.
 - (l) High Altitude Weather.
 - (m) Personal Equipment/Ejection Seat.
 - (n) Flight Characteristics/Aircraft Limitation.
 - (o) Emergency procedures.
 - (p) Special Equipment (Configurations and Tracker, Active and Passive Defensive Systems, and Sensor Systems).
 - (q) Flight Line Techniques.
 - (r) Tactical Doctrine Procedures.
 - (s) Local Operating Procedures.
 - (t) Cockpit Familiarization.
- (2) U-2 flight training/transition will consist of sixteen sorties with special emphasis on the following:

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- (a) Flight characteristics.
- (b) Traffic pattern and landings.
- (c) Engine flameout and air start.
- (d) Emergency gear extension.
- (e) Fuel transfer and fuel dump procedures.
- (f) Simulated flameout patterns.
- (g) Speed control.
- (h) Hand flying aircraft at altitudes above 65,000 feet.
- (i) Stall characteristics.
- (j) Special equipment operation.
- (k) Adherence to photographic flight lines.
- (l) Doppler navigation.
- (m) Maintenance of flight log (green card).
- (n) Maximum angle-of-bank evasive maneuvers.
- (o) Night operation.
- (p) High altitude navigation.
- (q) Maximum range cruise techniques.

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5. REPORTS:

a. Commander, Detachment "G" will submit a monthly progress report to Project Headquarters on each pilot trainee during the ground and flight training program. This report will:

- (1) Be submitted to Project Headquarters on the first duty day of each month.

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(2) Be narrative in form.

(3) Include, as a minimum, measurable accomplishments during the month plus a statement as to what is scheduled for the following month, and Commander's estimate of the rate of progress.

b. Commander, Detachment "G" will submit a final training report to Project Headquarters following the completion of training for each student.

6. RECORDS:

A record of training will be maintained for each pilot. Contents of this folder will be as prescribed by Commander, Detachment "G".

7. SECURITY/COVER:

a. Project Headquarters Directive 10-10-1, will apply for [REDACTED] pilots at Detachment "G".

b. Security/Cover requirements as outlined in the IDEALIST/JACKSON Agreement will apply [REDACTED]

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