14th Flying Training Wing

Mid-Air Collision Avoidance (MACA) Drone Ops

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Overview

- Columbus AFB
- Aircraft
- CBM Airspace
- Low Level (MTR) Awareness
- Drone Incidents
- Questions?
Columbus Air Force Base

Cultivate Airmen, Create Pilots, Connect
Columbus Aircraft

Back to Basics...

Beechcraft T-6A Texan II
Max Speed – 316 kts
Cruise/Pattern airspeed – 200 kts
Final airspeed – 110 kts

Northrop T-38 Talon
Max Speed – 814 kts/ 1.23 Mach
Cruise/Pattern airspeed – 300 kts
Final airspeed – 160 kts

Beechcraft T-1A Jayhawk
Max Speed – 330 kts
Cruise airspeed – 250 kts; Pattern airspeed – 180 kts
Final airspeed – 120 kts
Back to Basics…

COLUMBUS FREQUENCIES
132.025 Columbus App (SE)
135.60 Columbus App (SW)
136.00 Columbus App N (N)
120.00 Columbus 1 MOA
120.80 Columbus 2 MOA
121.074 Columbus 1 E MOA
121.40 Meridian 1 E MOA
126.65 Columbus Tower
134.40 Columbus 3 MOA
134.55 Meridian 1 E MOA
134.80 Columbus 3 MOA
140.20 A-443 Monitor "Gunshy"

COLUMBUS MILITARY OPERATING AREAS (MOAs)
These areas are used to conduct basic, aerobatic, and formation maneuvers, at airspeeds varying from 100-500 KIAS. VFR pilots need no prior permission to fly through MOAs; however, VFR pilots must be aware of the possibility of encountering military aircraft. The best plan is to fly around or under active MOAs. MOA hours are printed on sectional charts or published by NOTAM when used at other than published times.

COLUMBUS 1 MOA
8,000'-22,000' MSL

COLUMBUS 2 MOA
8,000'-21,000' MSL

COLUMBUS 3 MOA
8,000'-22,000' MSL

COLUMBUS AFB

EUROCOPTER FLIGHT TEST
SFC-10,000' MSL

MERIDIAN 1 EAST MOA
8,000'-22,000' MSL

R-4404: Used by high-speed T-38 aircraft for low altitude tactical training. DO NOT enter active restricted areas and use caution when flying in the vicinity.
A-443: Used by T-6 students for VFR pattern practice at 1MSS (known as "Gunshy"). Be aware for a high volume of military traffic.

EUROCOPTER TEST AREA:
Used by UH-72A helicopters during daylight hours to conduct rapid descents and simulated emergency procedures. Be aware for a high volume of helicopter activity.

MILITARY TRAINING ROUTES (MTRs)
Depicted by the RED lines. MTRs extend 5 NM on either side of course and are flown 500' to 1500' AGL. Speeds range from 250 to 400 KIAS. Attempt to cross these routes at 90 degree angles above 3000 AGL. Contact FSS for MTR information.

MERIDIAN 1 WEST MOA
8,000'-22,000' MSL

BIRMINGHAM 2 MOA
500' AGL - 10,000' MSL
Traffic Pattern

T-38 Pattern
1,500’ AGL
Overhead
1,000’ AGL
Straight In

T-6 Pattern
1,000’ AGL
Overhead
500’ AGL
Straight In
Columbus AFB 5 Mile Ring

(Visualize it: See FAA UAS Data on a Map)

Cultivate Airmen, Create Pilots, Connect
Northern Landmark

Intersection of Kerr McGee Rd and Old Hwy 45 or Tronox Inc

~5.1 mi north of AFB
Southern Landmark

Cultivate Airmen, Create Pilots, Connect

East End Baptist Church between Hwy 373 and Hwy 50

~5.0 mi south of AFB
Eastern Landmark

New Salem Baptist Church off Wolfe Rd

~5.6 miles east of AFB
Western Landmark

Town Creek Missionary Baptist Church
~5.5 mi west of AFB
VR1050, VR1051 and VR1014 are all Visual Routes with 4 digit names meaning they are at or below 1500’ AGL. MTR’s with less than 4 digits will extend to varying higher altitudes. Centerlines are depicted. Note that actual route corridors are typically 10nm wide and allow military aircraft to exceed 250 KIAS below 10,000’. T-38C’s fly most of the route at 350KIAS, but may fly faster. CBM assigned aircraft typically operate at 500’ AGL on these routes.
2019 Incidents

• Drone near T-6 straight in, Columbus AFB, Spring 2019
  • In controlled airspace without permission

• Drone at 14,000’ MSL in T-6 MOA, Columbus AFB, Spring 2019
  • Well above 400 AGL

• Fortunately there have not been any collisions.
How you can help

• Abide by FAA guidelines Educate your friends
• Report them if you see them
• Low Levels (MTRs)
  • Sectionals (skyvector.com is free)
  • Call (662) 434-2522
Questions?

Columbus AFB Flight Safety

(662) 434-2526/2525/2842