CNATRA NOTICE 1542

Subj: NAVAL AIR TRAINING TEST CASE OF UNITED STATES AIR FORCE (USAF) INTRODUCTORY FLIGHT SCREENING (IFS)

Encl: (1) Aviation Training Jacket (ATJ) Supplemental Form

1. Background. Navy IFS and USAF IFS have distinctly different mindsets, methods of execution, and costs. Navy IFS is under the cognizance of Naval Aviation Schools Command (NASC), and is conducted at five civilian flying schools in the Pensacola, Florida, area. USAF IFS is administered by Doss Aviation and overseen by the USAF First Flight Training Squadron (1 FTS) in Pueblo, Colorado.

2. Purpose. The Chief of Naval Air Training (CNATRA) hopes to determine if Primary performance and/or attrition rates are impacted by different IFS experiences. Through coordination with Naval Education and Training Command (NETC), Chief of Naval Aviation Technical Training (CNATT), NASC, USAF Air Education and Training Command, USAF 12th Flying Training Wing, USAF 306th Flying Training Group, USAF 1 FTS, and Doss Aviation, this CNATRANOTE directs the execution of an operational test of sending 35 CNATRA students through the USAF IFS program at Pueblo, Colorado.

3. Applicability. This pilot program shall be conducted with 35 U.S. Navy Student Naval Aviators (SNAs), approximately 15 percent of the normal IFS throughput for the period of the test, March through May of 2014. Due to the small group size, it will not include Student Naval Flight Officers (SNFOs).

4. Training Syllabi Design. Navy students who attend USAF IFS will undergo the same course of instruction as their USAF counterparts. They will meet the same training standards and be subject to the same attrition processes under the cognizance of 1 FTS.

5. Time to Train. The Time to Train for USAF IFS and Navy IFS is roughly equivalent at 4.5 weeks.
6. **Timeline.** Students will be sequenced into USAF IFS according to the following schedule of USAF IFS start dates:

   a. **18 Mar 2014:** 11 students, projected completion date 18 Apr 2014.

   b. **3 Apr 2014:** 12 students, projected completion date 6 May 2014.

   c. **23 Apr 2014:** 12 students, projected completion date 23 May 2014.

   d. These numbers may be adjusted as needed by NASC, in close coordination with USAF IFS leadership (AETC/A3FP and 1 FTS), Doss, and CNATRA N7P.

   e. Students must arrive at USAF IFS no later than the day prior to the class start dates listed above.

   f. Students will depart USAF IFS and return to NASC upon completion of the program or attrition. There is no requirement to remain until projected completion date.

7. **Student Preparation.** Upon selection for USAF IFS, all students shall be referred to www.dossifs.com by NASC. The “Incoming Students” section of this website allows download of the “IFS Student Pre-Arrival Guide,” which contains the information each student shall know prior to arrival at USAF IFS.

8. **CNATRA Liaison Officer (CNATRA LNO).** CNATRA will provide an on-site liaison officer at USAF IFS from 17 Mar 2014 until completion of the program. The CNATRA LNO will:

   a. Coordinate with NASC, 1 FTS, Doss, and CNATRA to assist with all aspects of test program.

   b. Serve as a role model and mentor for all Navy students attending USAF IFS.

   c. Provide a weekly report to CNATRA each Thursday during the program.
d. Provide additional reports of all significant events to CNATRA as required.

e. Compile PDF records of all USAF IFS training received by each student. These records will include all gradesheets, test scores, overall scores, and attrition/completion information.

f. Forward each training record to NASC and CNATRA N7P.

9. Chain of Command

a. Prior to arriving at USAF IFS, students will be under the cognizance of NASC.

b. Upon arrival to USAF IFS, students will be under the cognizance of Doss Aviation leadership for administrative and flight training requirements. They will be under the cognizance of 1 FTS/CC, assisted by the CNATRA LNO, for military, disciplinary, and attrition requirements. Serious disciplinary cases should be referred to NASC for appropriate action.

c. Upon completion of or attrition from USAF IFS, students will return to NASC under the cognizance of NASC.

10. Administration

a. Because this test case will be executed within the limits of currently contracted USAF IFS capacity, there are expected to be no reimbursement or financial transactions between Navy and USAF financial managers.

   (1) In the event that current Contract Line Item Numbers (CLINs) are exceeded, CNATRA will MIPR required funding to AETC/FM. This cost will vary based on exact CLIN details, but the total cost of the program is not expected to exceed $86,000.

   (2) CLIN decisions are made quarterly. The decision that will affect this program can be expected on or about early April 2014. It is understood that this decision will be made after the test case commences, making final cost information impossible to determine at the program’s outset.
(3) Impact of CLIN decisions made after completion of the test case (July 2014 and beyond) will not be assigned to CNATRA.

b. NASC will coordinate Defense Travel System (DTS) orders for Temporary Additional Duty (TAD), travel costs, and per diem for all students. Because the flight training costs are mitigated and all lodging and meals are provided on-site at USAF IFS with no cost to the students, it is expected that the per-student cost will be lower for test case students than for normal Navy IFS students. While at USAF IFS, student per diem should be limited to incidentals only. Students should complete travel claims with NASC upon their return to NASC.

11. Student Selection Process

a. Selection Methodology. Each student will be rank-ordered by scores on the Pilot Flight Aptitude Rating (PFAR) portion of the Aviation Selection Test Battery (ASTB). Using this ranking, NASC will select the required number of students by choosing evenly across the population. The first class will begin selections with the highest PFAR, the second class will begin with the lowest PFAR, and the third class will begin with the highest PFAR. For example:

(1) To select five students for the first class from a PFAR-prioritized list of 40 total students entering IFS: select numbers 1, 10, 19, 28, 37.

(2) To select 10 students for the second class from a PFAR-prioritized list of 42 total students entering IFS: select numbers 42, 37, 33, 28, 24, 19, 15, 10, 6, and 1.

b. Selection Considerations. Selections for the test case will not be based on demographics; however, the systematic selection process will be monitored by CNATRA N7P to ensure that characteristics such as race, gender, baseline aptitude as measured by the PFAR, and commissioning sources are not inadvertently over-assigned to Navy IFS or USAF IFS.

c. Selection Execution. Selections will be conducted by NASC, in close coordination with CNATRA N7P and USAF IFS. When selections are complete, NASC will provide all required to
information to the Doss registrar, Mr. Tug Dellinger, 719-423-8336, for loading into the USAF IFS training management system.

d. Selection Tracking

(1) CNATRA N7P will maintain an overall tracker of all students selected for USAF IFS.

(2) Participation and performance in USAF IFS will be documented by NASC on an ATJ Supplemental Form; an example is provided in enclosure (1). This form, along with all USAF IFS performance information, shall be incorporated in each student’s Aviation Training Jacket (ATJ) following their return to NASC after USAF IFS completion or attrition.

12. Performance Evaluation

a. Performance Evaluation Metrics. Metrics for consideration in Primary training will include, but are not limited to:

(1) Completion Data. The following data will be collected for comparison purposes:

(a) IFS attrition rates: Percent attrition of the 35 test case students versus percent attrition for Navy IFS from 18 Mar 2014 until the last test case student completes USAF IFS.

(b) Primary attrition rates: Percent attrition of the test case USAF IFS students in Primary versus overall percent attrition for Primary, for the period beginning when the first USAF IFS completer enters Primary until the last USAF IFS completer finishes or attrites from Primary.

(c) NSS: Average Primary NSS of Primary completers who completed USAF IFS. This number will be compared to the overall Primary NSS average of 50.

(d) It is worth noting that with a small sample size, it may be difficult to gain statistically significant differences in attrition rates. Because of this, relative grade performance (NSS differences) and feedback from leadership will be very important.
(2) Grade measurements:

   (a) Aggregate raw scores at predetermined points in Primary. These points will be determined by CNATRA N7P.

   (b) Unsatisfactory Performance (UNSATs) and Marginal Performance (Marginals)

   (c) Primary end of Phase NSS

(3) Required overhead (additional flight events and hours):

   (a) Initial Progress Checks (SXX88), Final Progress Checks (SXX89), and Additional Progress Checks (SXX89)

   (b) Extra Training (SXX87) and Warm-ups (SXX86)

(4) Trends: CNATRA N7P will evaluate unexpected performance differences that may arise in particular cases.

(5) Pipeline Selection from Primary

(6) Days in Student Monitoring Status (SMS)

(7) Leadership Feedback. Following completion of the test case, each Primary squadron Commanding Officer (CO) will be asked for his/her overall analysis of those students received from USAF IFS, with particular focus on identifying differences in Primary performance that may have resulted from the different IFS experience.

   b. Test Case Status Reports. This report will be compiled and disseminated monthly via N7 to N00, for distribution to Air Education and Training Command (AETC/A3F), NASC, USAF IFS, CNATRA Training Air Wings (TRAWINGs), and the CNATRA LNO. This report should include:

   (1) Statistical Assessment

   (2) Risk Analysis

   (3) CNATRA LNO Feedback
(4) Recommendations

13. Criteria for Program Success. The progress of these students will be tracked alongside their Navy IFS counterparts through the end of Primary. The results will be archived for reference in future discussions of adjustments to the Navy IFS program. There are no specific performance goals or attrition targets.

14. Contingencies

   a. IFS Attrition. Students who attrite from USAF IFS will be processed by NASC in the same manner as Navy IFS attrites. No additional board action or CO review is required by NASC. USAF IFS, via the CNATRA LNO, will notify NASC and CNATRA N7P of any students who trigger a Progress Check (PC) and/or Elimination Check (EC). The primary goal of this test case is to determine impact of the USAF IFS paradigm as it is currently executed. As such, only in exceptional circumstances will the CNATRA LNO, NASC or CNATRA intervene in this process.

   b. Poor performance in Primary. All graduates of Navy IFS and USAF IFS will be treated equally in Primary according to normal Multi-service Pilot Training System (MPTS) processes.

   c. Discipline or Personal Conduct Issues. Per paragraph 7b above, serious cases should be referred to NASC for resolution. These students may be returned to NASC.

   d. Medical Issues. Minor medical issues should be addressed at USAF IFS. If prognosis is long-term (more than five training days) or uncertain, students should be returned to NASC.

15. Points of Contact:

   a. LCDR Peter Walker, USN, CNATRA N7P, DSN 861-1680, (361) 961-1680, peter.b.walker@navy.mil.

   b. CAPT Mike Tatsch, USN, CNATRA N7, DSN 861-1804, (361) 961-1804, michael.tatsch@navy.mil.

   c. Maj William MacNaughton, USMC, NASC IFS Director, DSN 459-3072, (850) 452-3072, william.macnaughton@navy.mil.
d. Lt Col Steve Owen, USAF, 1 FTS/CC, steven.owen@us.af.mil.

e. Mr. Lee Hall, Doss Aviation, 719-289-1668, lhall@dossifs.com.

f. Mr. Wayne Mudge, IFS Program Manager, AETC/A3FP, DSN 487-9652, (210) 652-9652, wayne.mudge.1@us.af.mil.

16. Cancellation. This notice shall remain in effect until cancelled or superseded by a CNATRANOTE with the same subject.

C. HOLLINGSWORTH
Chief of Staff

Distribution:
CNATRA website
NETC
AETC A3F
TRAWING FOUR
TRAWING FIVE
CNATT
NASC
12 FTW
306 FTG
1 FTS
DOSS
SUPPLEMENTAL JACKET FORM (ATJ)
<RANK> <NAME> HAS PARTICIPATED IN USAF IFS PER CNATRANOTE 1542 [date TBD]

DATE ENROLLED USAF IFS: <DD/MMM/YYYY>
DATE COMPLETED: <DD/MMM/YYYY>
USAF IFS PERFORMANCE: <RAW SCORE, PERCENTILE, GENERAL COMMENTS>
USAF IFS RESULT: PASS/ATTRITE

NOTES:
1. **NASC IFS DIRECTOR:**
   a. SHALL FILE A COPY OF THIS SUPPLEMENTARY ATJ FORM (CNATRA 1542/16) DIRECTLY BELOW THE ATJ SUMMARY CARD FORM (CNATRA 1542/95) UPON COMPLETION OF OR ATTRITION FROM USAF IFS.
   b. SHALL FILE A COPY OF CNATRANOTE 1542 [date TBD], NOT INCLUDING ENCLOSURES, IN THE WAIVER SECTION OF THE STUDENT’S ATJ.

2. FOLLOW THE CONTINGENCY GUIDANCE PROVIDED IN CNATRANOTE 1542 [date TBD] FOR ALL PERFORMANCE ISSUES OR DISCONTINUATION OF TRAINING. CONTACT CNATRA N7P (DSN 861-1680) WITH QUESTIONS.

SIGNED _________________________________________________

STUDENT CONTROL