

**BY ORDER OF THE COMMANDER
BEALE AIR FORCE BASE**

**AIR FORCE INSTRUCTION 11-418
BEALE AIR FORCE BASE**



Supplement

22 November 2023

Flying Operations

OPERATIONS SUPERVISION

COMPLIANCE WITH THIS PUBLICATION IS MANDATORY

ACCESSIBILITY: Publications and forms are available on the e-Publishing website at www.e-Publishing.af.mil for downloading or ordering.

RELEASABILITY: There are no releasability restrictions on this publication.

OPR: 9 OG/OGV

Certified by: 9 OG/CC
(Col Jason D. Bialon)

Supersedes: AFI 11-418_BEALESUP, 11 Oct 2018

Pages: 77

This publication implements and extends the guidance of Air Force Instruction (AFI) 11-418, Operations Supervision, 22 Dec 21. It establishes responsibilities, requirements, procedures and training for the supervision of flying operations. This publication applies to the Regular Air Force, the Air Force Reserve, and the Air National Guard at Beale Air Force Base, California. This publication does not apply to the United States Space Force. Refer recommended changes and questions about this publication to the Office of Primary Responsibility (OPR) listed above using the Air Force Form (AF) 847, *Recommendation for Change of Publication*. Ensure all records created as a result of processes prescribed in this publication are maintained in accordance with AFI 33-322, *Management of Records*, and disposed of in accordance with the Air Force Records Disposition Schedule (RDS) located in the Air Force Records Management System (AFRIMS). The authorities to waive wing, unit, delta or garrison level requirements in this publication are identified with a Tier (T-3) number following the compliance statement. Submit requests for waivers through the chain of command to the appropriate Tier waiver approval authority, or alternately, to the publication OPR for non-tiered compliance items.

SUMMARY OF CHANGES

This document has been substantially revised and must be completely reviewed. Major changes include: removal of outdated guidance, alignment with the parent regulation, and MAJCOM supplement.

2.2.3.3. **(Added)** Computer with NIPRNET internet connection to allow for email communication, access to weather products, Notices to Airmen (NOTAMs), SOF Quick Reaction Checklist (QRC), electronic publications, applicable FLIP and other digital SOF products.

2.2.3.4. **(Added)** Unit issued tablet with commercial internet connectivity for electronic flight bag (EFB) access and SOF reporting measures.

2.2.3.4.1. **(Added)** The SOF station requires high-speed commercial internet/WiFi access to facilitate required reporting and notifications as well as to local bird radar (AHAS) display. The SOF tablet also requires high-speed commercial internet/WiFi for embedded EFB functionality and updates.

2.2.3.5. **(Added)** Land Mobile Radio (LMR) channelized as required to contact all Airfield support agencies to include U-2/T-38 aircraft maintenance, mobile officers, the Wing Commander's Net, medical, security, base ops and fire/rescue.

2.2.3.6. **(Added)** Independent weather reporting system capable of displaying instantaneous (5 second average) wind speed and crosswind data at the approach end of the active runway for monitoring landing conditions.

2.2.5.1. **(Added)** 9 OG/OGV will maintain SOF U-2 and T-38 Pilot's Checklists, SOF Quick Reaction Checklists (QRCs), and In-flight Guides digitally and provide connectivity via NIPR and/or commercial networks.

2.2.5.2. **(Added)** In addition to minimum items, the 9 OG SOF QRC will include a Physiological Incident/DCS Event checklist.

2.3.2.1. **(Added)** See Table 3.1.1.

2.4.1.1. **(Added)** Beale AFB requires a SOF when U-2 or T-38 sorties are occurring IAW Table 3.1.1.

2.4.2.1.1. **(Added)** See Table 3.1.1.

2.4.2.8.1. **(Added)** 9 OG/OGV will maintain the SOF Daily Report in digital format. The content of the report will include airfield status, emergencies, incidents, or other notable events that occurred during the local flying period.

2.5.1.1.1. **(Added)** The primary duty location for the Ops Sup is the duty desk of building 1025. See Table 3.1.1 for approved alternate locations.

2.5.1.4.4. **(Added)** Ops Sup will coordinate with AMXS, Ops Schedulers, PSPTS, and flight crew. Mission changes that affect the flight authorization (e.g. crew changes, cancellations,

additions), moderate Risk Management (RM) score approval, and decisions on sortie priorities are to be directed to the designated Top 3 representative.

2.5.1.4.5. **(Added)** The Top 3 is a qualified Ops Sup who acts as the direct representative of the flying Squadron commanders and has the delegated responsibility of approving or amending the flight authorization, approving non-current Instructor Pilots (IP) mobiles to recur non-current pilots, and providing overall senior duty representation for the daily flying schedule. When not concurrently acting as Ops Sup, the Top 3 needs to be readily available to the Ops Sup via phone or radio and should be able to report to building 1025 within 30 minutes, waivable by the 9 OG/CC. The Top 3 will be certified by 1 RS and 99 RS Squadron Commanders and identified via the Letter of X (LoX). The Top 3 can also perform Top 3 supervision duties from a mobile when allowed by Table 3.1.1.

2.5.1.6.1. **(Added)** 9 RW flying squadrons will be responsible for creating a Top 3 log (digital or paper format). The content of the log will include notes about aircraft for the flying schedule and training focus for the flying period. The Ops Sup/Top 3 will document any equipment deficiencies in the log and Top 3 will take action to correct those deficiencies.

2.5.2. **(Added)** The respective 1/99 RS DO will be the OPR for the Ops Sup/Top 3 program and be responsible for the creation and content of the Ops Sup/Top 3 upgrade checklist. Upon completion of the upgrade, the squadron will enter the individual as an Ops Sup/Top 3 on the squadron "Letter of Xs" (LoX).

2.5.3. **(Added)** FOL/CCs will create and document a local Operations Supervisor upgrade program at their discretion.

2.5.4. **(Added)** At the discretion of the FOL/CC, Forward Operating Location (FOL) SOFs may perform applicable Ops Sup duties in lieu of an Ops Sup program. If an Ops Sup is not utilized, applicable duties will be incorporated into the FOL SOF program.

Table 3.1.1. (Added) 9 RW Minimum Flying Unit Supervision Requirements.

Type of Operation	SOF	Ops Sup/Top 3 ¹
Daily Flying Operations	Duty Location ²	Duty Location ²
Off-Station Sorties	Not Required	Available ^{3,5}
FCF Flights	Duty Location	Available ⁴
BR/ERT	Not Required	Available ⁵
Notes: 1. Top 3: If the Ops Sup is not Top 3 qualified, then a Top 3 must be designated on the schedule. 2. Reduced Flying Operations: is defined as 2 or less U-2s airborne. No SOF is required during reduced flying ops provided there is a U-2 IP mobilizing or sitting Ops Sup/Top 3. If the Top 3 is also performing mobile duties, an Ops Sup is required at duty location until last crew step. 3. Weekend Ops Sup: When T-38s are operating off station outside of normal flying hours, the 1 RS/CC or designated representative will designate a Weekend Ops Sup to communicate with and assist aircrew as required. The Weekend Ops Sup will be available via cell phone and establish a communication plan with off station aircrew. In the event of an emergency or other non-standard situation, the Weekend Ops Sup will notify Top 3 and 9 OG/CC or designated representative. The Weekend Ops Sup will be a qualified T-38 IP. 4. FCF Flights: A SOF is required for all FCF flights. 5. Busy Relay/ERT: Ops Sup is required at the duty location to step aircrew for outbound ERTs. Top 3 must be available (on call) until ETP. Mobile will be the designated mission monitor and can dual-hat as Top 3. 6. Available: Either at duty location or on call via cell phone or radio.		

3.2.1. (Added) The Beale operations complex is defined as either the primary or alternate duty locations for the SOF and Ops Sup.

3.2.2. (Added) SOF will be in the duty location 30 minutes prior to the estimated takeoff/arrival time for first aircraft requiring a SOF and remain in place until engine shutdown for the last aircraft requiring a SOF except as directed by Table 3.1.1 or as waived by 9 OG/CC.

3.2.3. (Added) The Ops Sup will be on duty starting no later than the first crew brief and ending at last U-2 or T-38 landing. See Table 3.1.1 for exceptions.

3.4.1. (Added) Units deployed to Beale AFB will contact 9 OG/CC and request transition into Beale's SOF Program if desired.

4.1.8. (Added) Do not change SOFs during an IFE. The incoming SOF will assist the current SOF until the emergency is terminated.

4.1.9. (Added) Due to the unique nature of U-2 flights, the mobile will act as the primary point of contact for the pilot to help troubleshoot and resolve problems during emergencies or other malfunctions.

4.1.9.1. (Added) The SOF assists the Mobile by preparing the airfield to receive the distressed U-2 as well as notify applicable agencies and provide experienced safety oversight to the Pilot/Mobile recovery plan. The SOF should direct all communications to the U-2 through the Mobile and the Mobile will relay to the pilot.

- 5.3.1.1. **(Added)** The primary duty location for the Beale SOF is the Beale Air Traffic Control Tower.
- 5.3.1.2. **(Added)** FOL/CCs will determine how best to integrate the SOF into the host base architecture and designate a primary duty location.
- 5.3.2.4. **(Added)** The alternate duty location for the Beale SOF is any U-2 mobile vehicle equipped with radios capable of transmitting and receiving UHF and VHF SOF frequencies.
- 5.3.2.5. **(Added)** FOL/CCs will determine alternate duty locations as required.
- 5.4.1.2. **(Added)** Non-CMR/Non-BMC attached aircrew (e.g. AFRC Individual Mobilization Augmentees) previously qualified as U-2 Instructor Pilots may perform SOF duties provided they are trained as directed by this publication and maintain SOF currency.
- 5.4.5.1. **(Added)** Only an experienced SOF, annotated on the 1/99 RS LOX may upgrade aircrew to SOF.
- 5.4.5.1.1. **(Added)** An experienced SOF is defined as any SOF who has been qualified for at least 6 months and performed a minimum of 5 SOF tours following qualification.
- 5.5.1.1. **(Added)** 9 OG/OGV will keep the most current SOF Upgrade Checklist on the 9 OG/OGV SharePoint site and the 9 OG EFB Library.
- 5.5.2.1. **(Added)** All Beale SOFs will be 9 RW U-2 and/or T-38 experienced pilots nominated via the Training Review Board (TRB) process and approved by 9 OG/CC.
- 5.5.2.2. **(Added)** FOL/CCs may nominate and approve experienced pilots to perform SOF duties at those locations. Beale SOF qualification is not a prerequisite to perform SOF duties at an FOL.
- 5.5.4.11. **(Added)** FOL/CCs will establish and document local SOF certification incorporating applicable training items from this instruction as well as local standards and procedures. Document this training on a local LOX, AF Form 4348, or MFR as appropriate.
- 5.8.1.1. **(Added)** 9 OG/OGV is the OPR for administering the SOF program and this supplement.
- 5.8.2.6.1. **(Added)** 9 OG/OGV will maintain a SOF read file located on the 9 OG/OGV SharePoint site which provides information of a non-time critical nature. SOF read files will also be published to Patriot Excalibur (PEX) for dissemination.
- 6.1.1. **(Added)** Reference the SOF Quick Reaction Checklist for specifics on local CONFERENCE HOTEL procedures.

GEOFFREY I. CHURCH, Col, USAF

Commander

ATTACHMENT 1**GLOSSARY OF REFERENCES AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION***References*

AFPD 11-2, *Aircrew Operations*, 31 January 2019

AFMAN 11-202V3, *General Flight Rules*, 10 January 2022

DAFI 33-360, *Publications and Forms Management*, 21 July 2021

AFMAN 33-363, *Management of Records*, 1 November 1999

BAFBI 11-250, *Airfield Operations and Base Flying Procedures*, 24 May 2022

Adopted Forms

AF Form 4348, *USAF Aircrew Certifications*

AF Form 8, *Certificate of Aircrew Qualification*

AF Form 847, *Recommendation for Change of Publication*

Abbreviations and Acronyms

AFDPO—Air Force Departmental Publishing Office

AFI—Air Force Instruction

AFMAN—Air Force Manual

AFPD—Air Force Policy Directive

BR—Busy Relay

EFB—Electronic Flight Bag

ERT—Enroute Recovery Team

ETP—Equal Time Point

FOL—Forward Operating Location

LMR—Land Mobile Radio

LOX—Letter of X's

MAJCOM—Major Command

NOTAMS—Notices to Airmen

OPR— Office of Primary Responsibility

PEX—Patriot Excalibur

QRC—Quick Reaction Checklist

SFA—Single Frequency Approach

SOF—Supervisor of Flying

TEG—Test Evaluation Group

TMG—Test Management Group

UHF—Ultra-High Frequency

VHF—Very-High Frequency

WIC—Weapons Instructor Course