

INTERNATIONAL OPS NOTICE 10/15

ISSUED BY FLIGHT SERVICE BUREAU

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SUBJECT:
CRUISE MISSILES CASPIAN SEA
VALID DATE: 13 OCT 2015

Guidance

ORBB/Baghdad FIR and OSTT/Damascus FIR already have existing recommendations to avoid the airspace; for some countries including UK and US, operations are prohibited. Cruise missiles such as the Kalibr-class normally operate at altitudes below 500 feet and so are, in theory at least, well below international airways.

However, reports indicate that 4 of the 26 missiles landed in Iran (in other words, a failure of the guidance or propulsion system), and since the escalation of the situation in the Middle East last year, many operators now route through OIIX/Tehran FIR instead of over Iraq. No international Aviation Authority has issued specific guidance after this event, but each Operator should make their own assessment of operations in this region.

Situation/Event

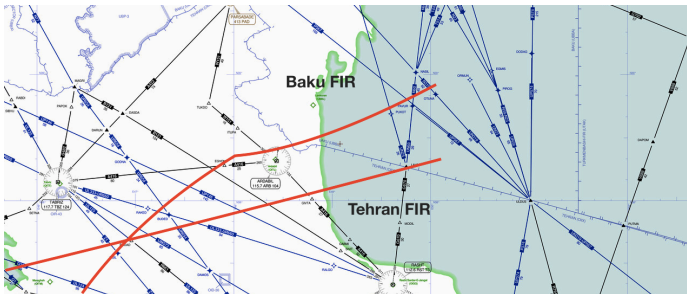
On 06 OCT 15 the Russian military launched 26 Kalibr-class cruise missiles from 4 ships in the Caspian Sea at targets in Syria. These missiles were routed through the airspace of Azerbaijan, Iran, Iraq and Syria, causing concern as to the safety of international air traffic crossing the missiles trajectory amid the potential for further strikes.

Airspace Affected

Baghdad FIR (ORBB), Baku FIR (UBBA), Tehran FIR (OIIX), Damascus FIR (OSTT).

REFERENCE DOCUMENTS:

- EASA SIB 2015-22
- FAA Notam A0065/14 (Iraq)
- UK Notam V0044/15 (Iraq)



Missile tracks on 06 OCT 15 launched from Caspian Sea, approximate. Track source: Russian Ministry of Defence.

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Missile tracks on 06OCT15

About this Notice

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