



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Aviation
Administration**

Mission Support Services
800 Independence Ave
Washington, DC 20591

February 19, 2021

Exemption No. 8255I
Regulatory Docket No. FAA-2003-16491

Colonel Daniel Y. Morris
Commander, Army Safety Office
U. S. Army Aeronautical Services Agency
9325 Gunston Road, Suite N319
Fort Belvoir, VA 22060

Dear Colonel Morris:

This letter is to inform you that the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has granted your petition to extend Exemption No. 8255H. It transmits the FAA's decision, explains its basis, and gives you the conditions and limitations of the exemption, including the date it ends.

The Basis for the FAA's Decision

By letter dated January 28, 2021, you petitioned the FAA on behalf of the Department of the Army, 2nd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment (2nd/75th) for an extension of Exemption No. 8255H. That exemption from § 105.19(a) and (b) of Title 14, Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR) allows the 2nd/75th to conduct certain night, unlighted parachute operations, outside special use airspace at Fort Lewis, Washington, at an altitude of 800 feet above ground level (AGL).

In your petition, you indicate that there has been no change in the conditions and reasons relative to public interest and safety that were the basis for granting the original exemption.

The FAA's Decision

The FAA has determined that good cause exists for not publishing a summary of the petition in the Federal Register because the requested extension of the exemption would not set a precedent, and any delay in acting on this petition would be detrimental to 2nd/75th.

The FAA has determined that the justification for the issuance of Exemption No. 8255H remains valid with respect to this exemption and is in the public interest. Therefore, under the authority provided by 49 U.S.C. 106(f), 40113, and 44701, which the FAA Administrator has delegated to me, I grant Department of the Army, 2nd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment (2nd/75th) an exemption from 14 CFR 105.19(a) and (b) that allows the 2nd/75th to conduct certain night,

AJV-21-00217-E

unlighted parachute operations, outside special use airspace at Fort Lewis, Washington, at an altitude of 800 feet AGL, subject to the following conditions and limitations.

Conditions and Limitations

1. This exemption is limited to night parachute, combat readiness, and training exercises of the 2nd/75th located at Fort Lewis, Washington, conducted in the areas known as the Roger's Drop Zone, the center having a latitude/longitude of 47.00.98N, 122.27.42W.
2. Each airborne training operation:
 - a. Must be:
 - (i) Conducted in a flight of two or more aircraft with a dedicated observer aboard each aircraft with the sole duty as an aerial observer; or
 - (ii) Escorted by an aircraft serving as an observation platform dedicated to surveillance for nonparticipating traffic in the event the training operation only consists of a single jump aircraft.
 - b. In addition to the aerial observation, the operation must be conducted with personnel on the ground at the drop zone to conduct surveillance for potential conflicts with nonparticipating aircraft (ground observers).
 - c. The operation must be conducted in such a manner as to enable the aerial and ground observers to survey fully about for nonparticipating traffic and relay the findings to all participants so operations may be terminated while nonparticipating traffic is in the area.
3. Traffic notifications from the observers must¹ provide the flight crews with information about the position, direction of flight, and speed of the observed nonparticipating traffic.
4. When nonparticipating traffic is in the area, the training exercise and parachute operations must be terminated until the air traffic is no longer in the area.
5. Unlighted parachute operations may not be conducted above 1,500 feet above ground level (AGL) and must be contained within the boundaries of the Rogers and Rogers West Drop Zones. This area must be established as an area of low air traffic that does not infringe upon FAA-designated airspace areas and has been coordinated with the appropriate FAA region's Air Traffic Division and Flight Standards Division offices.
6. Each pilot who will conduct operations for the 2nd/75th under this exemption must be thoroughly familiar with its provisions.

¹ Replaced the word "shall" with "must". This is a change to language without change to meaning.

7. The holder must advertise the approved training area to operators at all airports within 50 miles of the area 7 days preceding each use.
8. The holder must provide notice through the use of Notices to Airmen (NOTAMs)/Special Notices disseminated at least 72 hours in advance of scheduled exercises. The training airspace will be identified by name (if applicable) and by latitude/longitude. The NOTAMs will advise that during the course of flight planning, potential users of the operational area will be provided with information on the time and place of the proposed unlighted parachute operations. The NOTAMs must be made available to the civil users of the National Airspace System.

If you request an extension to this exemption, please submit your request by using the Regulatory Docket No. FAA-2003-16491 (<http://www.regulations.gov>). In addition, you should submit your request no later than 120 days prior to the exemption's expiration date listed below.

If you require an amendment to this exemption, please submit your request no later than 120 days prior to the date you need the amendment using the process indicated above.

Any extension or amendment request must meet the requirements of § 11.81 of 14 CFR.

The Effect of the FAA's Decision

The FAA's decision amends Exemption No. 8255H to 8255I and extends the termination date to February 28, 2023, unless sooner superseded or rescinded.

Sincerely,

/s/

Natasha A. Durkins
Director, Policy, AJV-P
Air Traffic Organization