

April 16, 2001

Ms. Patricia Graham
Airspace Specialist
FAA – Southern Region
P.O. Box 20636
Atlanta, GA 30320
ATTN.: ASO-520.10

RE: FHWA/Meggitt Defense Systems-TX/Florida DOT - Application for Certificate of Waiver or Authorization – UAV Flight Operations Proposed June 3 and 4

Dear Ms. Graham:

I am pleased to forward to you a completed FAA Form 7711-2 – Application for Certificate of Waiver or Authorization on behalf of the Federal Highway Administration, Meggitt Defense Systems-TX and the Florida Department of Transportation for UAV flight operations proposed June 3 and 4 in Miami-Dade County, Florida. The application includes four supplements.

The UAV proposed for these flights is the Meggitt Defense Systems-TX Sentry HP, an outstanding aircraft with an outstanding performance and safety record. To date, 136 Sentry HPs have been produced for the US Army, the US Navy, the FBI and others. Although the actual number of flight hours accumulated by the Sentry program in its 14 years of operations is not available for security reasons, the total is in the thousands. During over 800 hours of factory acceptance flights logged since January 1, 1996, there have been only four accidents, summarized as follows:

Date	Cause	Damage	Corrective Action
01/96	Engine seized on takeoff (first flight of engine in new configuration, no subsequent problems.)	Class A	Exhaust/cooling systems redesigned
05/97	Pitch gyro, improperly wired	Class A	FCS production procedure changed
10/97	Pilot error, extreme attitude	Class A	Control handoff procedure revised
04/98	Pilot error, stall turning final	Class A	Final approach speeds recalculated

Letter – Ms. Patricia Graham
April 16, 2001
Page 2

The purpose of the proposed UAV flight operations is to demonstrate surface transportation management capabilities of the UAV through video surveillance techniques. If this application is approved by the FAA, these UAV flight operations will become an official program item for the Intelligent Transportation Society of America's Eleventh Annual Meeting and Exposition – *ITS: Connecting the Americas* -- occurring June 4-7 at the Miami Beach Convention Center. We anticipate that approximately 100 delegates from the annual meeting and exposition, transportation officials from all over the world, will be in attendance at each of our two UAV flight operations.

Intelligent transportation systems development and deployment is a critical element in the Florida Department of Transportation's surface transportation plan. We believe that UAV capabilities provide great promise with respect to our future deployments of intelligent transportation systems. For example, UAVs could be used for: routine traffic management surveillance, incident management, and emergency evacuation procedures. Other public agencies could benefit as well; agriculture crop management, forest fire management and law enforcement uses come readily to mind.

I would like to thank you for your assistance with our application to this point. And, I look forward to corresponding with you to resolve any issues you may have associated with our application. I may be reached at 850/414-4980 if you should have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely yours,

Chester H. Chandler III, P.E.
ITS Manager

cc: Ken Morefield, Florida Department of Transportation
Stan Powell, Meggitt Defense Systems - TX
Chung Tran, Federal Highway Administration

CHC:er

Enclosure: FAA Form 7711-2 dated 4/16/01