

# Fake Navigation fees are still a problem

Declan Selleck

17 June, 2020



It's a concern: instead of sending your Nav Fees payment to Eurocontrol, you've actually sent it to some guy sitting in his underpants in his mother's basement. And you're not going to get it back.

We've seen an increasing variety of scam emails, that at first glance look like they are from Eurocontrol – but aren't. Here's a good example from this week:

From: Alexandre Skonieczki  
Date: June 15, 2020 at 7:29:41 AM EDT  
Subject: open payment- eurocontrol  
Reply-To: [alexander.skonieczki@eurocotrolint.in](mailto:alexander.skonieczki@eurocotrolint.in)

Dear Colleagues,

We have sent a couple of letters to you, but no response, could you please let us know the status of outstanding with respect to Air navigation and communication charges on review of your files, we discovered that these invoices in reference to your flight charges dated 15-02-2020 and 15-02-2020 for QPSIX (reference 05/044579/56/1906/01 and 05/044579/56/1907/01) are still in arrears, please kindly confirm the status of these invoices, that is let us know if payment has been made or not by providing a copy of the bank swift confirmation payment proof to enable us reconcile and update your account accordingly.

Note also that, the wire transfer and banking details have changed and the new payment instructions will be sent to you

prior to the next payment run, please advise accordingly, so that we can forward details promptly.

Thanks for your cooperation, we await your prompt advice.

Yours faithfully,

Alexandre Skonieczki

COLLECTION OF CHARGES  
CRCO/CAT/ACCOUNTING  
EUROCONTROL  
Rue de la Fusee 96130  
BELGIUM

You'd be forgiven for glancing over it and responding to request the details of 'their' new bank account. And that's where the problem begins – you'll get a new bank account, only it won't direct your money to

Brussels.

## IATA has the same issue:

IATA AGENT

To: Karen Welsh

IATA INVOICE

IA

Dear Sir,

Your company still have IATA invoices that are overdue for payment , Kindly check your records and get back to us as soon as possible if payment has been made we would appreciate if you could send us a copy of the Invoice... Failure to do so may lead to sanctions

Expecting your usual prompt co-operation

Best Regards,

Karen Welsh

Accounts /Invoicing

International Air Transport Association

IATA Head Office , 800 Place Victoria

**Fortunately**, most of these emails are poorly written, and easy enough to identify as bogus – but that’s only if you are on your guard. The best solution is to simply be aware of the risk:

## Eurocontrol

1. Look at the sender address: real emails come from **eurocontrol.int**. Fake ones look similar, but might be something like *@eurocontrolinc.com* or *@eurocontrolint.in*.
2. Most of the emails ask for a copy of an invoice or payment – be suspicious when you read that.
3. Be especially alert when the email mentions a **change in bank account**. Eurocontrol has no plans to change bank accounts any time soon.
4. Best advice: write to the real address: **r3.crco@eurocontrol.int** and ask for confirmation of any message, or call the Route Charges office on +32 2729 3838.
5. The most secure way to handle Eurocontrol charges and payments is through their CEFA portal.

## IATA

1. Most recent fake addresses: *invoice@iatahelpdesk.org*, *payments@iataaccounting.org*
2. Contact the real address: **information.security@iata.org**

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The Air Charter Association have also warned that scammers have recently targeted business deals where operators charter out their aircraft to brokers. Similar to the fake IATA invoices scam, but more elaborate. Bottom line, if you’re chartering out your aircraft — or if you’re chartering one yourself — work with a reputable broker and triple-check all contact details (email addresses as well as phone numbers) and bank account details before pushing the button on any money transfers.

Even the mighty Japan Airlines fell victim to a targeted email scam back in 2017 which defrauded the company of JPY384 million yen – the equivalent of around USD \$3.4 million. The airline received a series of emails purporting to be from a U.S. financial services company that had been leasing aircraft to Japan

Airlines. Not realising it was scam, JAL promptly paid the money into a Hong Kong bank account, as requested. It was only later discovered to be fraudulent, when the genuine U.S. company demanded payment!

Have you been the target of similar scams? Let us know! – and we'll add it to the list of dodgy email addresses and common scams.

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## International Bulletin: Hong Kong pain in the ass, Haiti relief operations

Cynthia Claros  
17 June, 2020

INTERNATIONAL BULLETIN	ISSUED BY FLIGHT SERVICE BUREAU
	SITA HNLFSXH AKLFSXH AFTN KMCXAAL EMAIL INTL.DESK@FSBUREAU.ORG



**Hong Kong is a pain in the ass - it's official** 20OCT Authorities in Hong Kong confirmed yesterday that the airport is a giant pain, especially for non-scheduled operators. Lining up slots, parking, permits and handling is extremely difficult. End result: a mountain of frustration. Read the article.

**Haiti relief operations - and Airbus Flight 101** 20OCT After Hurricane Matthew last week, MTPP/Port-au-Prince (Toussaint Louverture) became a central focus in relief efforts for Haiti. **OpsGroup member Airbus** operated an amazing relief flight from Lyon. Read the article.

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**VTZZ/Thailand** is in a period of mourning following the death of His Majesty, King Bhumibol on 13 October. This is a time of deep sorrow for Thai people – refrain from any behaviour that may be interpreted as festive, disrespectful or disorderly. Abide by local laws and respect Thai customs. There may be some disruption of commercial and public services during the mourning period, especially during the first 30 days (until 13 November). Tourist attractions are open with the exception of Wat Pra Kaew (Temple of the Emerald Buddha) and the Grand Palace in Bangkok. Expect traffic disruptions and heightened security around these areas as people pay their respects to the late King.

**EBBR/Brussels** All non-scheduled flights destined to EBBR are allowed only after special permission by Airport Authority before start of flight. Contact +32 2 7536900 or [inspect@brusselsairport.be](mailto:inspect@brusselsairport.be).

**DTZZ/Tunisia** extended the state of emergency on 18OCT, set to expire, by three months. The state of emergency went into effect following a series of terrorist attacks in 2015 and has been extended multiple times.

**ORBB/Baghdad FIR** Traffic entering from Baghdad FIR (ORBB) to Ankara FIR (LTAA) shall file their FPL as follows: NINVA-OTKEP-SRT at FL320 and above. NOTAM A4572/16 refers.

**Solomon Islands** There has been a confirmed outbreak of dengue fever in the capital city, Honiara; you should follow the advice of the local authorities and take steps to avoid being bitten by mosquitoes; you should take out comprehensive travel and medical insurance before travelling to the Solomon Islands

**TXKF/Bermuda** Due to maintenance, the Bermuda Radar system will be out of service on Friday. Recommended reroute to avoid airspace. New York Center overflight procedures will be in effect. Routes have been developed to provide limited non-radar service within the airspace. All departures from Bermuda will be held down at FL310.

**OJAI/Amman, Jordan** Runway 26L/08R will be closed for urgent pavement maintenance on these days in November: 01,08,15,22,29: from 0930-1330Z. The airport will not be available for either normal operations or emergency divers during the closure period.

**OEZZ/Saudi Arabia** From 8 to 10 October there were several missile attacks reported near the Saudi / Yemeni border and the southern Red Sea.

**ZZZZ/Worldwide** Regulatory and voluntary bans on Samsung Galaxy Note7 smartphones is spreading as airlines and airport authorities around the world are announcing bans or restricted usage on the device, which has been withdrawn by Samsung after some devices caught fire. Ban notices are being issued primarily through airline online check-in pages, as well as via public announcements in airport terminals and onboard aircraft. The US Department of Transportation (DOT) was first to issue a total ban on taking the device on board, as a passenger or as air cargo, when it gave an emergency order Oct. 15 with FAA. The devices are being banned because of fire concerns, and the fallout following an incident involving a smoking smartphone on board a Southwest Airlines aircraft in Louisville, Kentucky on Oct. 5.

**YZZZ/Australia** will not be implementing the changes in the ICAO PANS-ATM (Doc 4444), as they say they haven't had enough time to work on the safety case - ie. figuring out if these changes are dangerous in any way. In short, they won't be saying "Climb via SID" or "Climb via STAR", which are the new phraseologies.

**TTZP/Piarco** wins the award for most confusing AIC of the week, namely AIC03/16 issued on 13OCT. Titled "RVSM Implementation", it appears that Trinidad is finally implementing RVSM in their airspace. But wait, they did that in 2005. So what's new in this AIC? It's a mystery. Take a look and see if you can spot it.

**KLAX/Los Angeles** 3 out of the 4 runways at KLAX have now been renovated. Runway 6R/24L reopened on 16OCT after renovations. Improvements to the fourth and final runway, 07L/25R, will begin OCT22 and continue until June 2017. This last runway will be partially closed until January, and then closed completely to allow for more extensive work to be done

**FSIA/Seychelles** Runway will be closed on Thursday 20 and 27 Oct between 1815-0245z and Friday 21 and 28 Oct between 1900-0215z. Can be opened in cases of emergency.

**UHPP/Petropavlovsk** Eruption in progress at Klyuchevskoy volcano (N5603E16038) near UHPP. Ash cloud reported at 0720z on 17 Oct from ground level up to FL300.

**VVZZ/Vietnam** Typhoon Sarika is forecast to bring hazardous sea and weather conditions to parts of northern Vietnam from around 19 October 2016; heavy rainfall could lead to flooding and landslides

**KLAS/Las Vegas** Because of the next presidential debate that will be held in Las Vegas on October 19, 2016, intermittent road closures will affect access to McCarran International Airport (LAS) between 4 pm and 10 pm on that date. The recommended route to the airport from the east side of the valley is westbound Flamingo Road to southbound Paradise Road. The recommended route to the airport from the west side of the valley is eastbound Tropicana Avenue to southbound Paradise Road.

**OIIX/Tehran** FIR The minimum safe level on R462 between DENDA and METBI has been raised to FL140.

**KSFO/San Francisco** has a new ATC Tower operational since Sunday last, located between Terminals 1 and 2. Per the local report, it “offers controllers a 650-square-foot work area with unobstructed 235-degree views of the airport’s runways and taxiways”. Hopefully there’s not much going on in the other 125 degrees.

**OSZZ/Syria** Russia’s only aircraft carrier, Admiral Kuznetsov, is nearing the end of a work-up period outside the port of Murmansk before heading for the eastern Mediterranean, reportedly to begin air operations against targets in Syria.

**EGPK/Prestwick** will be closed from midnight to 0400Z on 21OCT, due to a planned ATC power outage. ATC reachable during outage at +447917 424603.

**RPZZ/Philippines** Typhoon Sarika recently passed through the island of Luzon as a category 4 storm. Transportation routes, power and telecommunications systems could be affected in some areas. Other services that may be affected in these areas include emergency and medical care, as well as water and food supplies. If travelling to affected areas, exercise caution, monitor local news and weather reports, and follow the advice of local authorities.

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## Midweek Briefing 04MAY: New US CBP Airport, Iceland ATC Strike continues

Cynthia Claros  
17 June, 2020



# INTERNATIONAL BULLETIN

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EMAIL INTL.DESK@FSBUREAU.ORG



**New US CBP Airport** 04MAY A new US Customs facility opened in KMT/ Marathon on 20APR, to facilitate increased traffic to Cuba. Read the article.

**Iceland ATC Strike continues** 04MAY Icelandic controllers are in a pay dispute with Isavia, leading to multiple strike actions at BIKF/Keflavik and BIRK/Reykjavik. Last week BIKF was closed overnight at short notice. Read the article.

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**EHAM/Amsterdam** and other Dutch airports will observe a two minute silence on ATC frequencies today, 04MAY, from 1800-1803Z. ATC will arrange traffic flow so that no aircraft will land or taxi during this period, meaning likely delays, albeit for a short period.

**SECU/Cuenca, Ecuador** remains closed after an E190 slid off the main runway on 29APR, latest estimate is no reopening before 06MAY.

**CZZZ/Canada** Visa-exempt foreign nationals can enter and exit Canada by air without an Electronic Travel Authorization until 29SEP2016. After that date, these travelers will need to obtain online authorization to visit.

**BIZZ/Iceland** Multiple ATC Strike actions for BIRK and BIKF are ongoing, check NOTAMS and with handler for latest. **Read article.**

**TFFR/Guadeloupe** has ongoing main runway closures due to WIP, current shown are 04MAY 0200-1015Z, 17MAY 1000Z- 18MAY 1600Z. Only helicopters will be allowed to operate during these periods.

**UIBB/Bratsk** has a fuel shortage until 31MAY, non-scheduled movements are by PPR only.

**NWWW/Tontouta** has an ATC staff shortage and requires slots for arrival until 31MAY, Tel +687 352437. Work on 11/29 is also ongoing, check NOTAMS for any current outages, which will close the airport.

**EGGX/Shanwick** is trialling transferring westbound flights direct to a HF frequency rather than via an initial VHF frequency, using CPDLC. The default frequencies will be HF 5649 H24, 2872 0000-0900 and 1800-2400, and 8879 0900-2100.

**PAZA/Anchorage** has published new procedures Eff 28APR for User Preferred Routes within the PAZA FIR,

refer A0075/16.

**SVZZ/Venezuela** changed timezones on 01MAY to UTC-4. In addition, all public offices, including public ministries, will only operate on Mondays and Tuesdays until further notice.

**TTZP/Piarco FIR** is trialing ADS-C and CPDLC with ident TTZP until 31MAY. Flights entering the FIR east of 57W should log on 15 minutes prior to the boundary with TTZP.

**UHSS/Yuzhno** has advised that B777 aircraft are limited to 310T during the summer period.

**UIAA/Chita** is only available as alternate for one specific airline (Aurora) between 0930-2100Z. Outside these times ops normal.

**WSZZ/Singapore** has introduced a fingerprint clearance system to verify the thumbprints of arriving and departing travelers ages six and above at select immigration checkpoints. The system will be progressively implemented starting at the manned immigration counters of sea and land checkpoints, followed by air checkpoints until full implementation is completed in the months ahead. Travelers should be prepared for slightly longer immigration clearance times at manned checkpoints, especially during the initial implementation stage of the project.

**YZZZ/Australia** Border Force employees have been banned from taking industrial action at airports for three months; the threat of ongoing strike action caused much concern for operations in March.

**RJTT/Haneda** the airport authority has changed the number of slots available for general aviation aircraft. Effective 25APR, slots for GA during the daytime (0600-2259 local) will be increased to 16 total for arrival and departure (from eight in the past). Note that there are no slots restrictions for night time operations (2300-0559 local).

**CYVR/Vancouver** will have one of its main runways 08R/26L closed nightly between the hours of 05-13Z 08MAY-02SEPT for construction. During the day (13-05Z) the runway will have the ILS on 08R/26L out of service, along with no approach lighting on runway 26L.

**SLZZ/Bolivia** Certain medications prescribed for personal use are treated as narcotics in Bolivia, with severe penalties for import or export without a valid prescription from a doctor; make sure you carry a letter from a doctor describing the medical condition and any prescribed drugs and that they are in their original containers and clearly labelled.

**EBBR/Brussels** has partially reopened the departure hall, which has remained closed since 22MAR. 110 Check-in counters will be open in the airport departure hall along with an additional 36 counters that are housed in temporary buildings. The EBBR airport authority expects this will bring the airport up to 80% of capacity.

**EZZZ/Europe** Bulgaria, Turkey and Romania will begin a project to interface their ATC systems so they can handle a significant build-up of airspace traffic in the Black Sea area. New routes are expected by mid 2016.

**LEZZ/Spain** The Spanish F1 Grand Prix is being held from 13MAY-15MAY and will bring heavier than normal traffic to LEBL/Barcelona and LEGE/Girona.

**HEZZ/Egypt** Individual travellers will in the future require a visa before entering Egypt. The exact date of the implementation of this rule is not yet determined. The visa must be applied for from the Egyptian embassy and the consulate generals before departure.

**GVZZ/Cape Verde** Aviation officials issued a statement announcing that national airports are open and operational. The statement was released following reports that flight operations had been suspended at the country's airports.

**ORZZ/Iraq** Iran canceled all flights to Baghdad following a breach of the International Area by protesters on 30APR. The demonstrations have caused problems for pilgrimage flights to Baghdad, and those flights will operate instead to ORNI/Najaf.

**VIDP/Delhi** has opened a new ATC tower (which is the country's tallest at 60 metres). VIDP will also be starting construction on a 4th runway this year and is expected to be completed by 2018 which will increase the airport arrival rate to 105 landings an hour, and will mitigate the common airborne holding.

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## Earthquakes: Japan & Ecuador, South America - New Timezone: Midweek Briefing 20APR

Cynthia Claros  
17 June, 2020

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	EMAIL INTL.DESK@FSBUREAU.ORG



**Earthquakes: Japan, Ecuador** 20APR Two large earthquakes struck Japan and Ecuador in the past week, with a longer term impact on International Flight Ops. RJFT/Kumamoto and SEMT/Manta are both closed UFN. Read full article.

**South America - New Timezone** 20APR In an unusual move, a new time zone will take effect in South America from the 1st of May. As part of a measure to battle an energy crisis in Venezuela, the entire country will change timezone from UTC -4h30 to UTC-5, to ensure more daylight in the evening when energy consumption peaks. **Read full article.**

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**EGLL/London Heathrow** An A320 was struck by a drone on approach to LHR on 17APR. This is the first incident of its kind, though there have been many close calls to date.

**FMZZ/Madagascar** Cyclone Fanatata is currently north of Madagascar, the equivalent of a Category 5 Hurricane. It is expected to miss the island nation and the main airport of FMMI but the close proximity of the cyclone to the island may cause flight disruptions.

**BIKF/Keflavik** beginning 01MAY, BIKF will be imposing a new Terminal Navigation Charge. This charge is to be applied to all flights arriving at BIKF. The airport authority has issued an Air Navigation Chargedocument to assist in determining the impact of the new fee.

**LTZZ/Turkey.** We've been alerted to a change in Overflight Requirements – aircraft with M- and VP-registrations, and any other countries without a bilateral agreement, require an Overflight Permit. See the new Turkey Lowdown for full information.

**TIZZ/U.S. Virgin Islands** authorities, assisted by the FBI, began investigating reports of a plot to attack airports on the Virgin Islands, notably the Terrance B. Lettsome International Airport (Beef Island Airport). The U.S. Coast Guard first received information of a terrorist attack plot circulating on social media. The threat focused on Terrance B. Lettsome International Airport but also mentioned airports on St. Croix, St. Thomas and St. John as possible targets. No information is available on what level of credibility authorities attach to these threats.

**EBBR/Brussels** A recent report from the Brussels Airport CEO has stated that EBBR will be 100% operational by the beginning of June.

**EDNY/Friedrichshafen** will be hosting the AERO 2016 exhibition from 20APR to 23APR. There is an expected increase in IFR traffic to the airport during the event. Please refer to NOTAM C0933/16 for further details.

**LCCC/Nicosia FIR** due to a Russian Navy Exercise and rocket test firings in the Mediterranean Sea, there are NOTAM'd route closures for W/UW17 from BALMA-NIKAS, R/UR78 and M/UM978 daily from 0500-1500Z on 21APR and 22APR. The NOTAMS covering the closure are A0308/16 and A0310/16.

**SBZZ/Brazil** The Canadian government has issued a helpful health notice for crew/passengers planning to travel to Brazil for the upcoming Olympic Games, which has advice on how to contend with the Zika virus.

**MGZZ/Guatemala** Volcano Santa Maria has had some recent high level ash dispersed into the atmosphere up to FL250. The Washington VAAC provides advisories and forecasts.

**ZBAA/Beijing** is not available for Non-Emergency diversions or planned as an alternate due to gate/stand shortage daily from 13-23Z daily until 28OCT16.

**VIZZ/India** The Government of India has introduced the e-TOURIST VISA (eTV) scheme for UK nationals travelling to India. All guests travelling under this scheme must carry a printed copy of the approved eTV for verification at the check-in counter prior to boarding.

**WSZZ/Singapore** the CAAS has issued 2 AIP supplements outlining the upcoming military exercise Bersama Shield 16. [AIP SUP 40-16](#) covers Kuala Lumpur and Singapore FIR airspace restrictions and [AIP SUP 41-16](#) covers additional Singapore FIR airspace restrictions. The exercise will be running from 21APR to 28APR.

**HSZZ/South Sudan** The UK FCO has issued a travel warning against travel to South Sudan and in particular to Juba due to the return of the First Vice President as "tensions and disturbances" may increase across the country in the coming weeks.

**FNZZ/Angola** The CDC has upgraded the yellow fever in Luanda Province to an Alert Level 2. The

government of Angola requires all travellers older than 9 months to show proof of yellow fever vaccination on arrival. In addition, CDC recommends that all travellers aged 9 months or older be vaccinated against yellow fever.

**DNMM/Lagos** a new protocol issued by customs and immigration officials is causing congestion in the arrival hall. There are 2 forms being given to passengers only once they enter the arrival processing area. Please ask your handler if these forms can be provided ahead of time.

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## US, Canada may lose EU visa rights, More Free Route Airspace for Northern Europe

Cynthia Claros  
17 June, 2020

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	EMAIL INTL.DESK@FSBUREAU.ORG

expect. time	destination	airline
13.25	RHODES	easyjet
13.35	MUNICH	lufthansa
13.40	GENEVE	swire
13.45	PARIS	sas
13.55	ROME	alitalia
14.00	NAPLES	alitalia
14.05	MADRID	iberia
14.15	TUNIS	airfrance
14.25	ZURICH	swire



**US and Canada may lose EU visa rights** 13APR The European Commission published warning on 12APR that visa-free travel by US and Canadian citizens to Europe is at risk, due to the lack of a full reciprocal arrangement for EU citizens. **Read the full article.**

**More Free Route Airspace for Northern Europe** 13APR Sweden, Finland, Denmark, Estonia and Latvia will be increasing free route airspace from 23JUN16. This allows operators to utilize User Preferred Routes above FL285. Details of the implementation can be found through the AIC A3/2016 from Sweden.

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**RKSS/Gimpo** is set to open South Korea's first purpose-built FBO next month. It includes a passenger terminal with customs and a large hangar that can accommodate up to eight large jets. The FBO is a

partnership between Korea Airport Crop and Avjet Asia.

**EBBR/Brussels** Controversial ATC Strike occurred without notice yesterday 12APR, restricting traffic at EBBR and in Belgian Airspace. Eurocontrol advises 4 of 6 sectors operational Wednesday 13APR, at this stage no significant further effect likely.

**KZZZ/USA** New security measures in the U.S. are being enacted in response to the Brussels Airport Bombings. The Senate voted to increase the vetting of airport workers, expand the number of TSA viper teams that sweep through airports unannounced to stop and search suspicious people, and double the number of TSA's bomb-sniffing dogs. Also, local law enforcement may also conduct random checks of cars and taxis heading towards the airport.

**KZZZ/USA** the FAA has provided its NextGEN update for 2016. It highlights all the completed items along with the expected achievements for the year. You can find all the info through the NextGEN website.

**EZZZ/Europe** as of 05APR Eurocontrol as been publishing Target Time information together with Calculated Take-off time (CTOT) in the Slot Allocation and Slot Revisions Messages (SAM and SRM). The purpose of the initiative is to provide flight crew with operational awareness of their flight's planned time at the congestion point in the air, rather than solely providing the corresponding delayed departure time (CTOT) to implement ATFM measures.

**EGZZ/United Kingdom** A large scale military exercise named 'Joint Warrior 16-1' has been taking place since 09APR16 and will last until 22APR06. EGPX and EGTT FIR/UIRs are affected. However, low to medium impact on airline operations is expected.

**LFZZ/France** beginning 03MAY16 France will be implementing CPDLC services within LFFF, LFEE, LFRR, LFMM and LFBB FIR's. The full details of the IOC can be found in AIC 10/16.

**EGGX/Shanwick** OCA implemented a trail of 5 minute separation minimum between aircraft which are following the same track, irrespective of whether they are East or Westbound. Full details can be found through AIC Y 022/2016.

**LOWW/Vienna** every weekend until 24MAY16 LOWW will be operating under single runway ops beginning 2100 on the Friday until 1600 on the Sunday. The closures are weather dependent and the closure will be recalled if the forecast calls for the use of runway 11/29. In any single runway scenario use at Vienna delays are a guarantee.

**OEZZ/Saudi Arabia** The U.S. State department updated a travel warning to Saudi Arabia on 11APR16. It outlines the risk to travellers due to an increased risk with the threat of terrorism.

**SKZZ/Colombia** The U.S. State department has updated the travel warning to Colombia. They have actually improved the travel warning as the security in the country has improved significantly in recent years. Foreigners should still exercise caution though.

**LTCC/Diyarbakir** is now able to handle international flights due to a new terminal building that has opened.

**OLBA/Beirut** two airport employees were detained on suspicion of terrorist activity involvement on 08APR16. Traces of explosives and a handgun were found on the two individuals.

**DIAP/Cote D'Ivoire** has reduced the passenger departure tax by 50% and have also removed the solidarity contribution tax levied on airline tickets.

**GABS/Mali** began renovations last month (MAR16) to increase the airports capacity to handle 1.5 million passengers which is up from the 800,000 annual passenger traffic. The project is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

# MHTG 'Interesting Approaches' to end, Greeks or Italians? ATC strikes:

Cynthia Claros  
17 June, 2020

**INTERNATIONAL  
BULLETIN**

**ISSUED BY FLIGHT SERVICE BUREAU**

SITA HNLFSXH AKLFSXH AFTN KMCOXAAL  
EMAIL INTL.DESK@FSBUREAU.ORG



**MHTG 'Interesting Approaches' to end** 06APR MHTG/Tegucigalpa Dangerous approaches at MHTG will be consigned to history, as a new airport was finally confirmed at the weekend by the Honduran government. **Read the full article.**

**Greeks or Italians? ATC strikes this week** 06APR There will be an ATC strike this week in Europe, maybe by Greece, maybe by Italy, maybe by both. These strikes are often cancelled shortly before starting, but at this pre-planning stage, it seems likely to go ahead. **Read the full article.**

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**EBBR/Brussels** has now reopened but operations are still very restricted. The airport is not expected to be fully operational until June or July by current estimates. The airport authority has instituted new security measures that include a requirement for passengers to arrive 3 hours prior to their departure time. The terminal is still closed to busses and trains. Slots must still be requested from the Brussels Airport Authority if you intend to operate in or out of EBBR.

**ZKPY/Pyongyang FIR** Many reports that North Korea is jamming GPS signals, also reported by South Korea RKRR NOTAM A0450/16. Signals have been reported as unreliable or lost when operating in or near

to North Korean airspace. Exercise caution if you rely on GPS in those areas. Read our DPRK Overflight Risk article from a few weeks ago.

**LIZZ/Italy Eurocontrol** has confirmed an Italian ATC strike is set for April 9th. NOTAMS A2062/16A2 and A2063/16A2 have been issued covering the proposed strike.

**MHTG/Tegucigalpa** Dangerous approaches at MHTG will be consigned to history, as a new airport was finally confirmed at the weekend by the Honduran government. Full article [here](#).

**LFXX/France** an Operational Trial of CPDLC Services in French Airspace of Reims (LFEE), Paris (LFFF) and Marseille (LFMM) ACC will be in effect from 05APR to 11APR.

**EZZZ/Europe** The U.S. State Department along with numerous other countries have issued a Europe wide travel warning in response to the attack in Brussels. While extra vigilance should be exercised it is also a very generic response to a threat that has yet to be fully understood from a commercial aviation perspective. If you would like to be kept up to date on specific travel alerts from the U.S. State Department you can sign up through their STEP program.

**EHAM/Amsterdam** reports of near misses with drones have recently been reported by crews. The location of the near misses was on the approach path but no specific runway was mentioned.

**KEWR/Newark** The FAA will be increasing the number of available slots to EWR, available at the end of October. The change is in response to the improved efficiency of the airport and the ability to increase the ATC arrival rate.

**FAA/United States** has issued Advisory Circular 00-30C. It describes the various types of CAT (Clear Air Turbulence) along with avoidance techniques and possible future forecast systems for helping Dispatchers and Pilots in the planning stages.

**KZZZ/USA** Check your passport! Effective 01APR16, if you're travelling to the United States under the Visa Waiver Program, you will also need to have a valid **e-Passport** along with your ESTA.

**CZVR/Vancouver** ACC will begin to use ADS-C on 18APR In their Oceanic sectors, for both alerting service (SAR) and improved ATC separation purposes.

**UDDD/Yerevan FIR** Due to Air Defence activity ATC route segments with Yerevan FIR Crossing FIR boundary points MATAL, ELSIV, PEMAN and VETEN between Yerevan FIR and Baku FIR are not available.

**UBBA/Baku FIR** Entry/Exit points VETEN, PEMAN, ELSIV, MATAL are closed.  
Baku FIR Entry/Exit points BARAD, DISKA closed from GND to FL305.  
NOTAMS A0030/16 and A0032/16 have been issued as well.

**UHSS/Yuzhno** will be closed daily 10APR-14MAY between the hours of 12-21Z.

**OMZZ/United Arab Emirates** will begin charging a \$9.50 USD Passenger Tax effective 30JUN, to be imposed on all travellers over the age of 2 through all airports including those only transiting the UAE. A driving factor in this new charge appears to be low oil prices affecting the Gulf States.

**UUZZ/Russia** has stated that aviation authorities are intensifying its ramp inspections of all aircraft (especially foreign aircraft, we guess) in the wake of the Rostov accident.

**FZZZ/Nigeria** The Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation has stated that steps are currently being taken to end the countries fuel shortage, but may take upwards of 2 months. We suggest to check with local handlers for the availability aviation fuel supply until the issue is resolved.

**VNKT/Kathmandu** We have received some reports that VNKT ATC weather reports are inaccurate, especially regarding visibility. Any feedback please let us know.

**VIAR/Amritsar** has suspended all night operations for 1 year due to the planned reconstruction of the airports runways.

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