

RA 2327 - Air Combat Manoeuvring, Basic Fighter Manoeuvres and Basic Helicopter Manoeuvres

Rationale

Air Combat Manoeuvring (ACM), Basic Fighter Manoeuvres (BFM) and Basic Helicopter Manoeuvres (BHM) are core fundamental skill sets required to prepare Aircrew and Aircraft for operations in contested environments. Training for these activities ►can be more◄ hazardous ►than routine flying,◄ involving high energy manoeuvres of Aircraft in close proximity to each other and Obstacles or terrain. Therefore, those engaged in the conduct and supervision of such activity need to be appropriately qualified and must apply the highest standards of flying discipline, pre-flight preparation and briefing supported by robust orders and instructions.

Contents

Definitions Relevant to this RA

2327(1): Air Combat Manoeuvring, Basic Fighter Manoeuvres and Basic Helicopter Manoeuvres

Definitions

Definitions Relevant to this RA

1. For the purpose of this RA the following definitions apply:
 - a. **Air Combat Manoeuvring (ACM)**. Multiple Aircraft conducting short range beyond visual range and within visual range tactics to defend against or engage one or more adversary Aircraft.
 - b. **Basic Fighter Manoeuvres (BFM) and Basic Helicopter Manoeuvres (BHM)**. Visual manoeuvring of a single Aircraft in a simulated engagement with a single adversary Aircraft.

Regulation 2327(1)

Air Combat Manoeuvring, Basic Fighter Manoeuvres and Basic Helicopter Manoeuvres

- 2327(1) ►Aviation Duty Holders (ADH) and Accountable Managers (Military Flying) (AM(MF) shall ensure that the◄ Supervision and conduct of ACM and BFM / BHM training shall be carried out by Suitably Qualified ►and Experienced Personnel,◄ who ►are current and◄ have been specifically authorized.

Acceptable Means of Compliance 2327(1)

Air Combat Manoeuvring, Basic Fighter Manoeuvres and Basic Helicopter Manoeuvres

2. ADH / AM(MF) **should** issue orders and instructions for ACM and BFM / BHM training (as appropriate for their Area of Responsibility) stipulating the following as a minimum:
 - a. The minimum Height at which manoeuvring may be conducted.
 - b. The minimum separation between Aircraft.
 - c. The manoeuvring limits for the Aircraft.
 - d. Authorizing personnel and their Responsibilities.
 - e. Initial qualifications, training and currency.
 - f. Planning and briefing requirements, including tactics and procedures.
 - g. Safety and emergency procedures.
 - h. Dissimilar-type procedures.
3. Aircrew **should** only conduct ACM training once they have completed the appropriate BFM / BHM training.

**Acceptable
Means of
Compliance
2327(1)****Joint Service and International Training**

4. When ACM or BFM / BHM is part of exercises conducted between UK Armed Forces / Defence Contractor Flying Organizations (DCFO) or between UK Armed Forces / DCFO and foreign armed services, the most stringent ACM or BFM / BHM rules, applicable to any one of the participating Services / organizations, **should** be observed.

**Guidance
Material
2327(1)****Air Combat Manoeuvring, Basic Fighter Manoeuvres and Basic Helicopter Manoeuvres****Joint Service and International Training**

5. To ease the coordination of ACM and BFM / BHM between UK Armed Forces ► / DCFO, ◀ Air ► to Air Combat ◀ Training Rules ► 2024 (or its amendments) ◀ will be used. In addition, Allied Command Europe Manual 75-2-1 'Fighting Edge' Air-to-Air Training Rules►¹◀ may be used to regulate ACM and BFM / BHM between UK Armed Forces ► / DCFO ◀ and other North Atlantic Treaty Organization nations.

¹ ► Air to Air Combat Training Rules 2024 (and its amendments) and Allied Command Europe Manual 75-2-1 'Fighting Edge' Air-to-Air Training Rules can be accessed through the Air and Space Warfare Centre Integrated Mission Support at ASWC-Tasking@mod.gov.uk. ◀