FAIRBANKS (FAI/PAFA)

Elevation 439ft

CATEGORY A

No AV brief required.

GENERAL

- The airport is situated 3 nm southwest of the central business district of Fairbanks, at the confluence of the Tanana and Chena rivers
- Fairbanks is the smallest city in the USA with non-stop service to Europe
- The city has a population of 35,252, of which nearly half are military personnel, plus an estimated 500 moose.
- Large EASTERLY variation (18°E)

Threat Based Briefing Topics

CFIT

- Terrain rises rapidly to the N and E, with notable peaks at 2,450ft asl 15nm NE and 2,930ft asl 16nm W
- Mt Prindle, 5,286ft asl 52nm NE
- The Alaska Range of mountains runs E-W approximately 70nm to the south, with very high peaks including Mt Deborah 12,339ft asl 72nm SSE and Mt Hayes 13,832ft asl 78nm SE
- Denali (Mt McKinley), 20,320ft asl 134nm SW is the highest peak in North America

Mid Air Collision

- Numerous military operating areas in the vicinity with Eielson AFB 21NM SE

ARRIVAL

- Rwy 02L preferred
- Note that the ILS DMEs read D2.0 at the runway thresholds
- A seaplane landing area is established at the northern end of the airfield between the two hard runways
- Crew report that compass disruption and radio interference has occurred as a result of high-energy RF transmissions, particularly in the area of R-2206 47nm SW of FAI

GROUND

- Parking available at the terminal or the heavy cargo area to the west of Rwy 02L/20R.
- Do not park on the East ramp as access to Rwy 02L/20R for departure is severely restricted from this side of the airport

WEATHER

- Fairbanks has a subarctic climate, with short summers and long, cold winters. However, summers are generally very warm for the latitude with temperatures approaching 30°C a fairly common occurrence.
- Daily mean max/min temperatures 22°C/11°C (July) -17°C/-27°C (Jan).
- Snowfall is generally confined to the months between October and March, with October and November the snowiest months.
- Very large temperature inversions are a frequent occurrence due to warm air rising to the tops of the hills to the north whilst cold air drawn in to the Tanana Valley accumulates in and around the city.
- Inversions in winter are associated with the development of thick ice fog.
- Southerly winds bring warm moist air from the Gulf of Alaska, which can lead to sudden and very rapid rises in temperature to well above freezing in winter and a risk of advection fog.

OPERATIONAL INFORMATION

Handling Agent	Simfest Ground Services
Handling Agent VHF	
Potable Water	Uplift not permitted

IF ONLY Electrical Power is required	Use ground power at all times
If BOTH electrical power and air conditioning is required:	Use APU (ACU equipment not available). Keep ground power connected to reduce APU fuel burn.