



**AIRCRAFT OWNERS AND PILOTS ASSOCIATION**

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March 3, 2006

Mr. John Warner  
Manager, Airspace Branch  
Western En Route and Oceanic Service Area  
Federal Aviation Administration  
1601 Lind Ave., S.W.  
Renton, WA 98055

**Re: Silver Military Operations Area, Case No. 05-ANM-010-NR**

Dear Mr. Warner,

The Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA), on behalf of our more than 406,000 members nationwide, supports the proposed revisions to the Silver Military Operations Area (MOA), located in southeast California. AOPA contends that the release of this important piece of airspace back into the National Airspace System (NAS) will have a positive impact on general aviation operations transitioning along Victor Airways 394, 587 and 21-283 between Los Angeles basin and all points northeast.

The Silver MOA, which makes up the southeast corner of the entire Edwards Air Force Base/China Lake complex, underlies three busy victor airways between Los Angeles and Las Vegas. V-394, V-587, and V-21-283 are the primary routes used by general aviation pilots between the Los Angeles basin and all points northeast. The proposed modifications to the Silver MOA will allow unhampered access to V-587 and V-21-283 for full instrument flight rules (IFR) and visual flight rules (VFR) use.

In addition, the airspace return will allow greater utility of the Baker Airport (O02), which currently underlies, and is severely constrained by, the Silver MOA. The proposed changes would allow pilots to completely avoid the MOA while operating in and around the airport, while also providing an increased level of safety for both general aviation and military pilots.

AOPA appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on and supports the Silver MOA revisions. We are encouraged by the Air Force's efforts to release unneeded airspace back to the NAS, and as training tactics and equipment continue to evolve, AOPA encourages the Air Force to take a broad look at their current special-use airspace assets and release those that are no longer needed, as is the case with the Silver MOA.

Sincerely,

Ian Twombly  
Air Traffic Services