

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
HEADQUARTERS AIR TRAINING COMMAND  
RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, TEXAS 78148



REPLY TO  
ATTN OF: ATOPT-F

11 AUG 1969

SUBJECT: T-38 Takeoff Criteria

TO ATC Flying Training Activities (DCO)  
Less: Keesler  
Perrin

1. The takeoff performance charts included in the 1 April 1969 T-38 Flight Manual have been revised to include recently validated flight test performance data. The improved accuracy reflects a more realistic performance during aborted takeoffs. The updated performance data however, results in longer critical field lengths and lower refusal speeds.

2. Because of the longer critical field lengths, there is an increased probability of a Category III takeoff situation (critical field lengths in excess of actual runway length). The following procedure supplements flight manual instructions and will be used to govern operational decisions under Category III conditions.

a. Wing/Squadron Commanders may authorize T-38 student training missions to take off at UPT bases under Category III conditions when a suitable barrier is available.

b. Takeoffs at other than UPT bases are not authorized when the critical field length exceeds the runway length.

3. These procedures will be included in the next revision to ATCM 51-38. In the interim, local reproduction of this letter is authorized for inclusion in ATCM 51-38.

FOR THE COMMANDER

  
ROBERT D. CURTIS, Colonel, USAF  
Assistant DCS/Operations

