Proposed LATN Training Area

Under this proposal, the 27th Special Operations Wing (27 SOW), based at Cannon AFB, would use the proposed LATN area to accomplish unique Special Operations Forces (SOF) mobility training requirements. The SOF mobility training would consist of approximately three sorties (or training flights) per day, or approximately 688 annually, in the northern portion of New Mexico and the southern portion of Colorado (see map at right). This area was primarily selected due to the topography, proximity to Cannon AFB, and lack of a large civilian populations.

Low-level training is the sole objective to accomplish in the LATN area. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and Air Force regulations require aircraft utilizing the LATN area to avoid airfields, towns, noise sensitive areas and wilderness areas by prescribed vertical and/or horizontal distances. The majority of training flights would take place after dusk with 95% taking place Monday through Friday.

Aircraft would fly as low as 200 feet above-ground-level (AGL). For each sortie, approximately three hours would be spent on training in the LATN area and the remainder of the five-hour flight would be spent training at Melrose Range or a local airfield.