



**MEDIA RELEASE: NGA-04-11**

CONTACT: Dave Burpee (301) 227-7385  
Jim Mohan (314) 263-4142

**NGA Invites Public Comment on Proposal to Remove  
Aeronautical Information from Public Sale and Distribution**

Bethesda, Md, Dec 3, 2004 -- The National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA) announced November 18, 2004, it is considering withdrawing its Flight Information Publications (FLIP), Digital Aeronautical Flight Information File (DAFIF), and Navigation Planning Charts from public sale and distribution. NGA has proposed to implement the changes on October 1, 2005. Today, NGA invites public comment on the proposed action through June 30, 2005.

Comments may be returned to: [aero.ocr@nga.mil](mailto:aero.ocr@nga.mil) or mailed to:

National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency  
Mail Stop D-111, Attn: Public Release of Aeronautical Products  
4600 Sangamore Road  
Bethesda, MD 20816-5003

If the proposed change in policy is adopted, FLIP, DAFIF, and navigation planning charts will be available only through the Department of Defense (DOD) distribution system. U.S. Federal and State government agencies and authorized government contractors will not be affected by this action.

The Agency is considering this action principally because increased numbers of foreign source providers are claiming intellectual property rights or are forewarning NGA that they intend to copyright their source. NGA relies on foreign data obtained through bi-lateral geospatial information sharing agreements and through direct purchase from private foreign companies. This foreign produced source is merged and integrated with NGA produced data to create and maintain the aeronautical data and products in question.

NGA and its predecessor organizations (NIMA and DMA) have published DOD's flight information products since the late 1940s to support the worldwide missions of DOD aircraft and have made some products available to the public since 1973. The publications are sold to the public through the auspices of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

NGA is a national intelligence and combat support agency whose mission is to provide timely, relevant, and accurate geospatial intelligence in support of national security. Geospatial intelligence is the exploitation and analysis of imagery and geospatial information to describe, assess, and visually depict physical features and geographically referenced activity on the earth. Headquartered in Bethesda, MD., NGA has major facilities in Washington DC, Northern Virginia, and St. Louis, MO. Areas with NGA support teams worldwide.