

FLIGHT  
SAFETY



F O U N D A T I O N

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# **Circling Accident Case Study:**

## **Air China 129, Busan Korea**

### **ALAR Workshop**

### **Bali, Indonesia**

Slide 1

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mfc1

mfc7549, 12/3/2010

# Circling Traps

- Air China Flight 129 CFIT accident
- April 15 2002
- B767-200
- Busan Korea
- 129 killed out of 166 passengers and crew
- First fatal accident on Air China in 47 years



# Busan Summary

- Crew initially briefed for an ILS 36L approach
- On arrival they received the following ATIS:  
*500 scattered, 1000 broken, 2500 overcast, rain, mist, visibility 4000 meters, wind 200 14 knots gusting to 20 knots*
- Captain elected to conduct a CAT C circling approach to R/W 18R, 10,500 feet long
- CAT C minimums 700 feet and 3200 meters

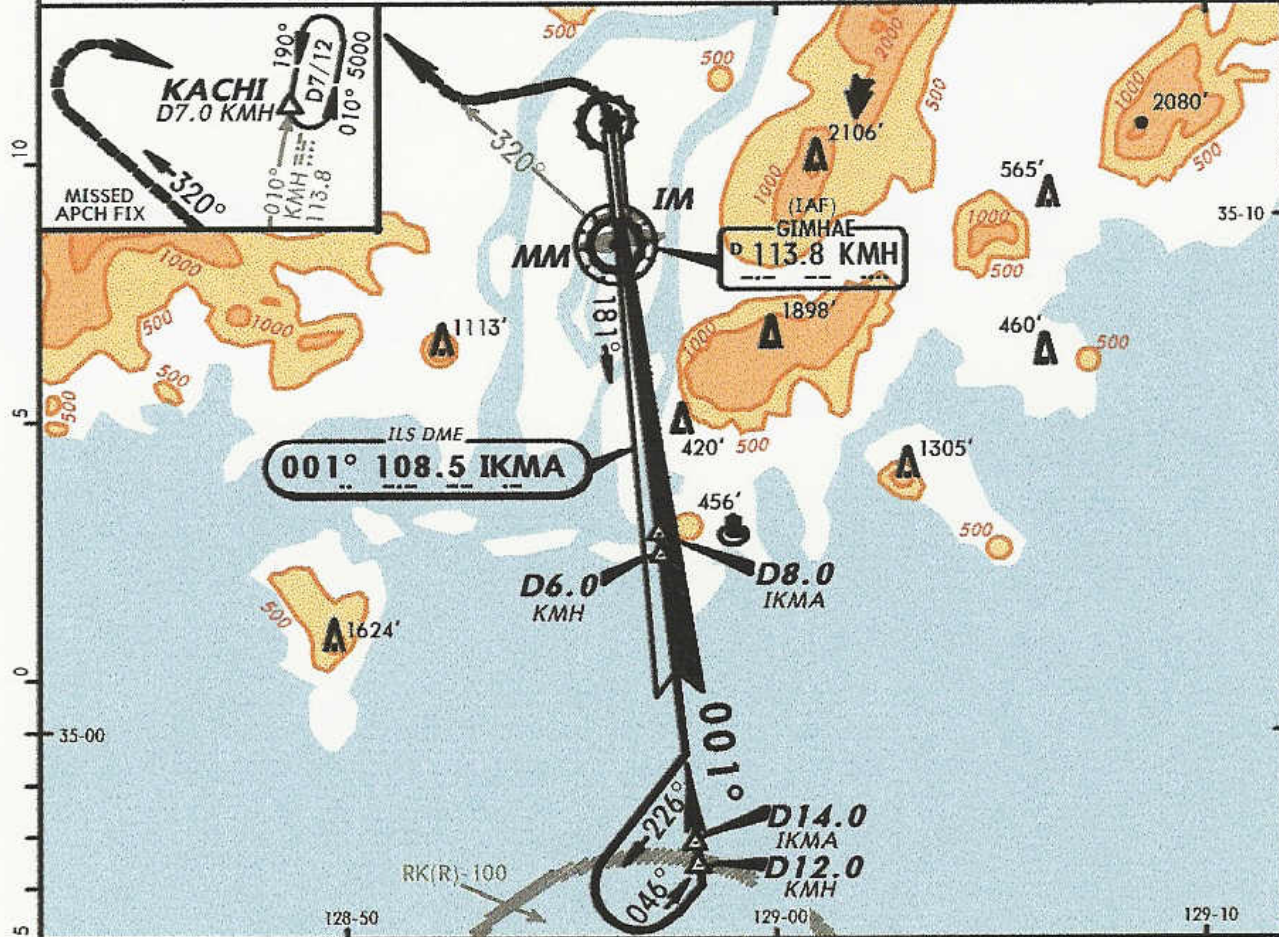
**RKPK  
GIMHAE INTL**

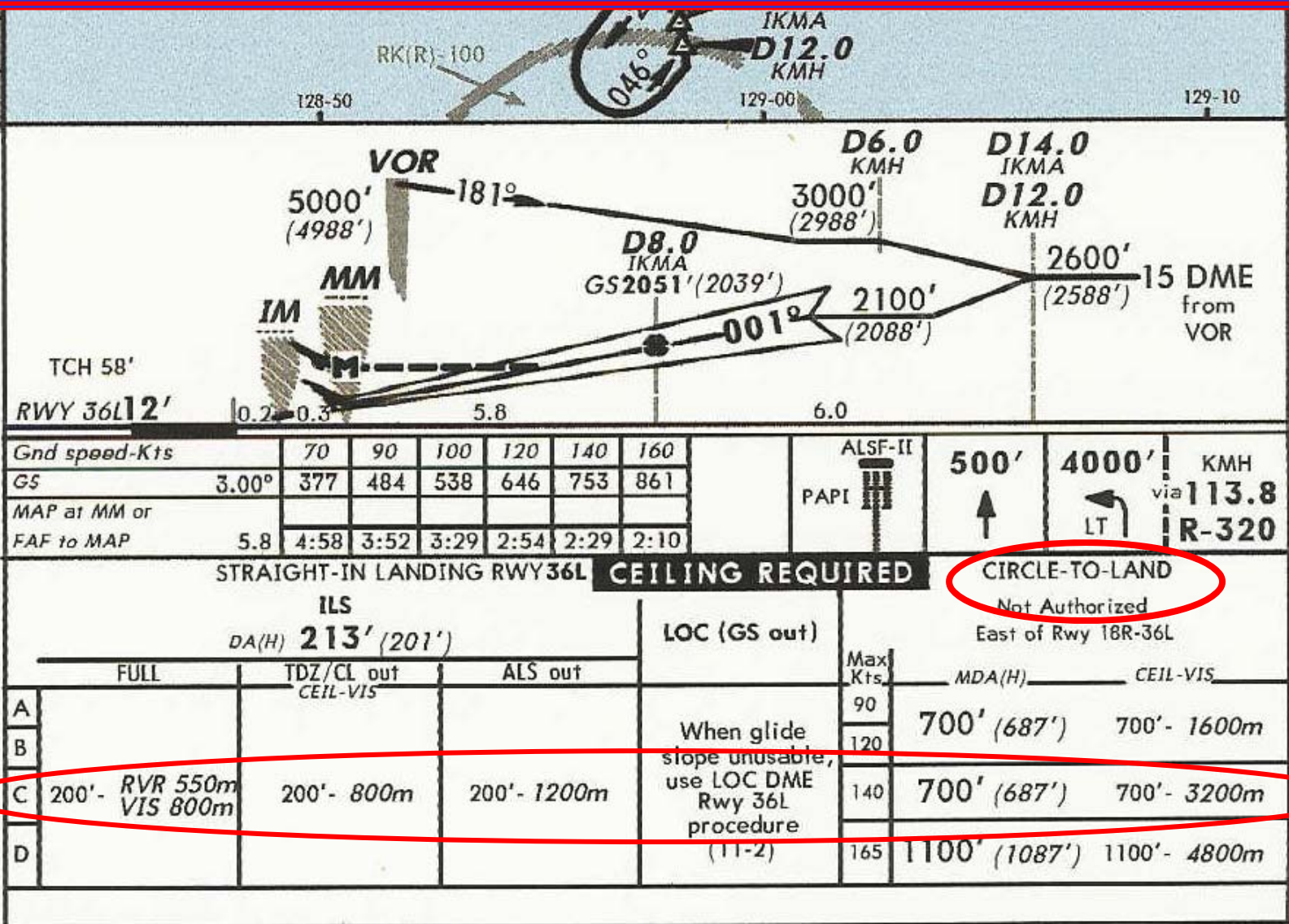
**JEPPESEN**

28 SEP 01 (11-1)

**BUSAN, KOREA  
ILS DME Rwy 36L**

*ATIS 126.6	GIMHAE Approach (R) 119.2 125.5 134.4 135.7			GIMHAE Tower 118.1 126.2		Ground 121.9			
LOC IKMA 108.5	Final Apch Crs 001°	GS D8.0 IKMA 2051' (2039')	ILS DA(H) 213' (201')	Apt Elev 13' RWY 36L 12'					
<p>MISSED APCH: Climb on runway heading to 500', then climbing LEFT turn to 4000' outbound via KMH VOR R-320, then climbing RIGHT turn, proceed to KACHI and hold at 5000'.</p>									
Missed apch minimum climb rate to 2000'.				Gnd speed-Kts	60	120	180	240	300
Alt set: IN (hPa on req)				Ft per Min	200	400	600	800	1000
Trans level: FL 140		Trans alt: 14000' (13988')							





CHANGES: Location and airport names.

**RKPK**

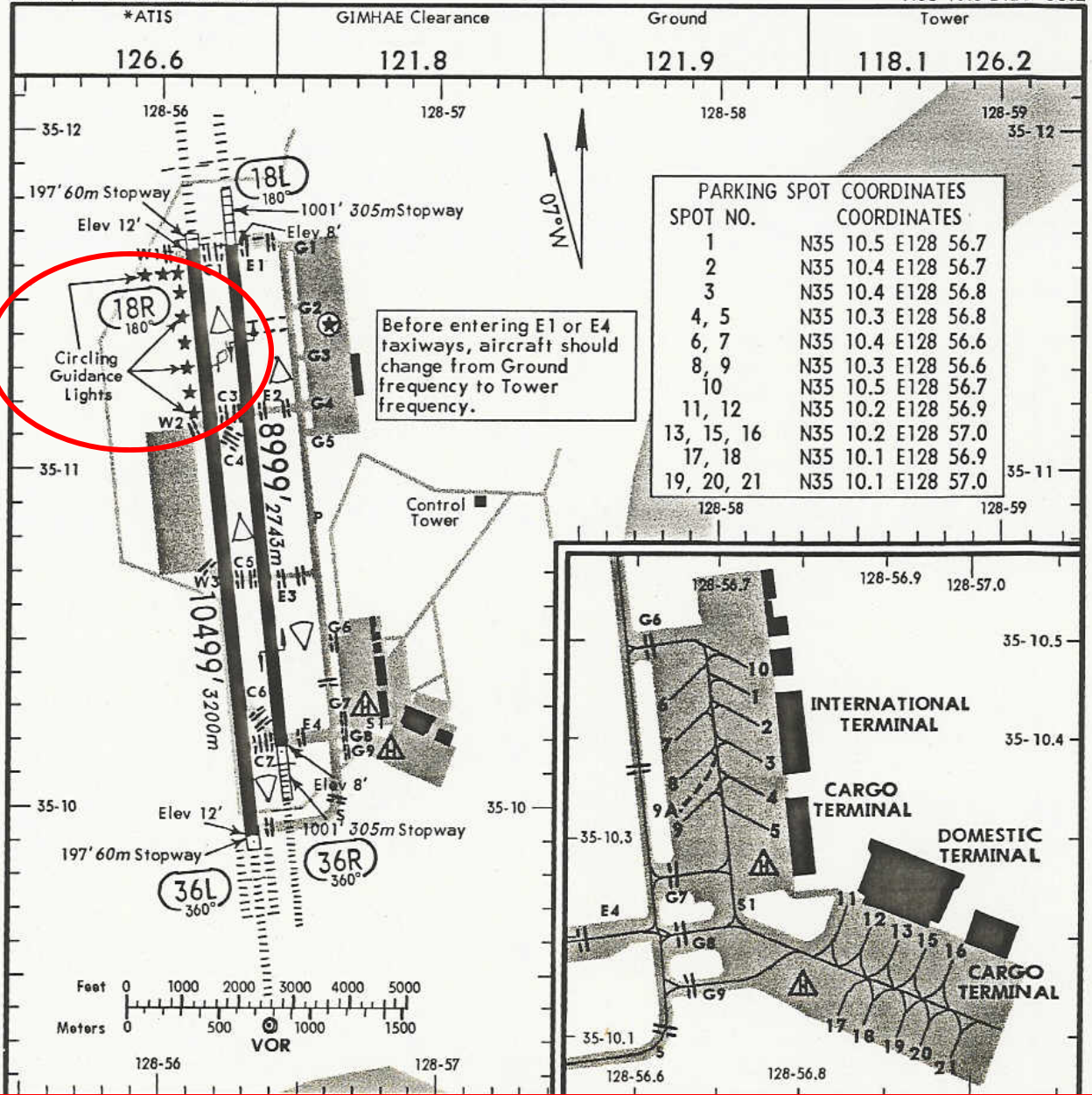
Apt Elev 13'  
001.0°/1.4 From KMH 113.8

**JEPPESEN**

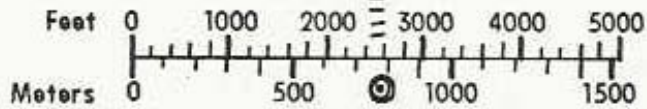
12 APR 02 (10-9)

**BUSAN, KOREA**

**GIMHAE INTL**  
N35 10.8 E128 56.2







128-56

128-57



**ADDITIONAL RUNWAY INFORMATION**

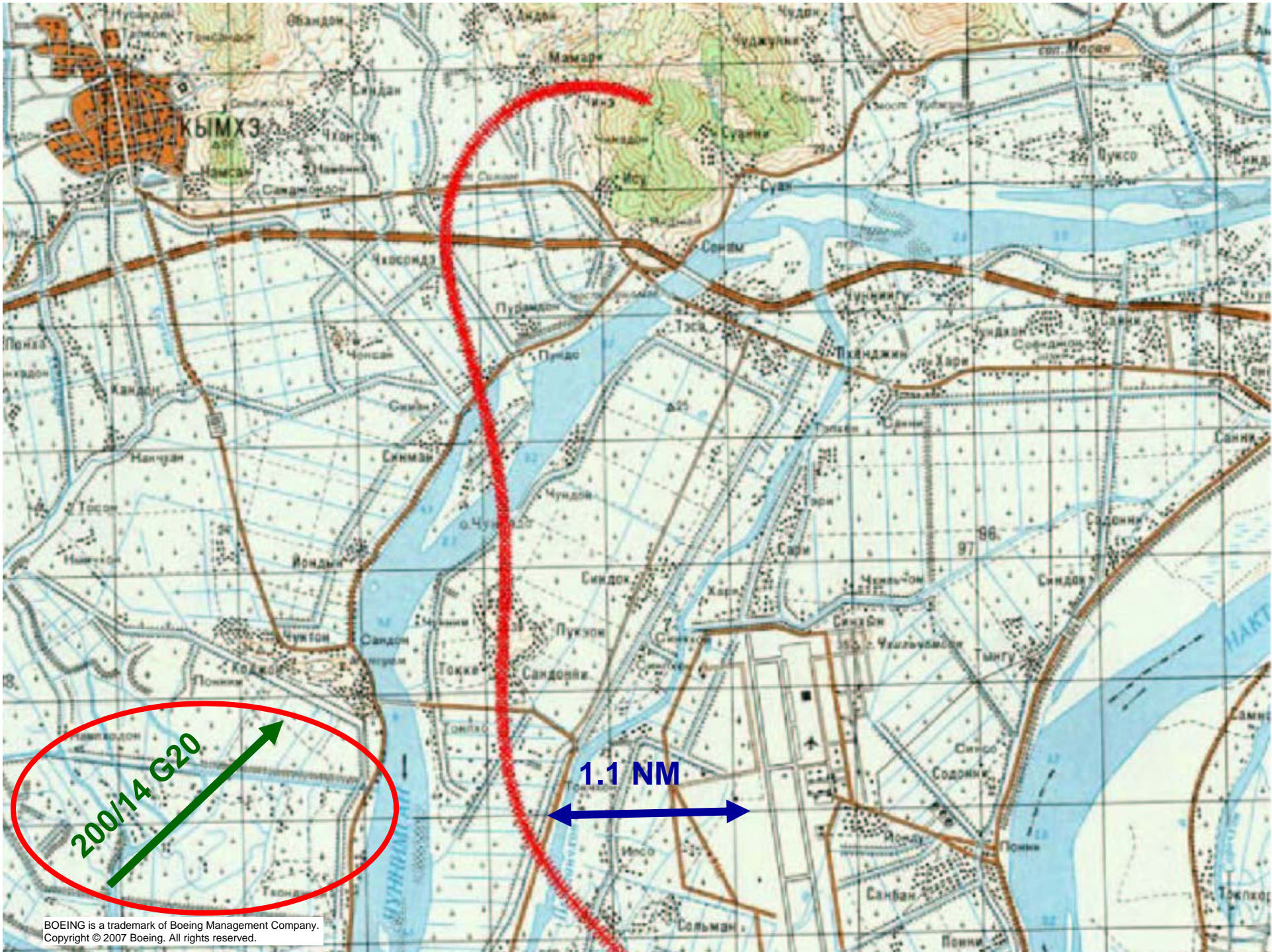
RWY		USABLE LENGTHS			WIDTH
		Threshold	Glide Slope	TAKE-OFF	
18L	HIRL 197' (60m) SALS PAPI (angle 3.0°)				148'
36R	HIRL 197' (60m) ALSF-I PAPI (angle 3.0°) RVR		7894' 2406m		45m
18R	HIRL 98' (30m) CL SALS REIL PAPI (angle 3.0°) ②				197'
36L	HIRL 98' (30m) CL ALSF-II TDZ PAPI-L (angle 3.0°) RVR		9478' 2889m		60m

- ① Grooved.
- ② Circling guidance lights.

**TAKE-OFF**

**FOR FILING AS ALTERNATE**

	TAKE-OFF		FOR FILING AS ALTERNATE	
	Rwy 18L/R	Rwy 36L/R	Precision	Non-Precision
1 Eng	200' - 1600m	500' - 1600m	600' - 3200m	800' - 3200m
2 & 3 Eng	200' - 800m	500' - 800m		
4 Eng	100' - 400m			



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**APPROACH PROCEDURES**  
**CIRCLING, GENERAL**

**CIRCLING APPROACH**

**ICAO DEFINITION**

An extension of an instrument approach procedure which provides for visual circling of the aerodrome prior to landing.

The circling area is determined by drawing arcs, centred on each runway threshold and joining those arcs with tangential lines. The radius of the arcs is related to:

- Aircraft category Specified on page B-1

- Speed

Aircraft category	MAX speed (kt IAS)
A	100
B	135
C	180
D	205

- Wind

25 kt throughout the turn

- Bank angle

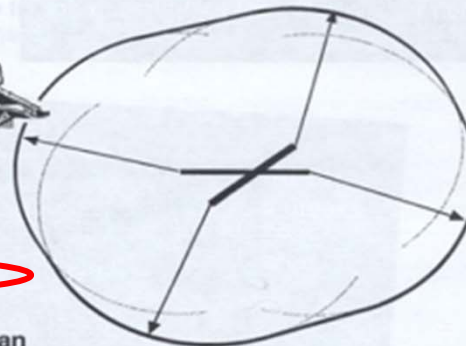
20° or 3°/s whichever requires less bank

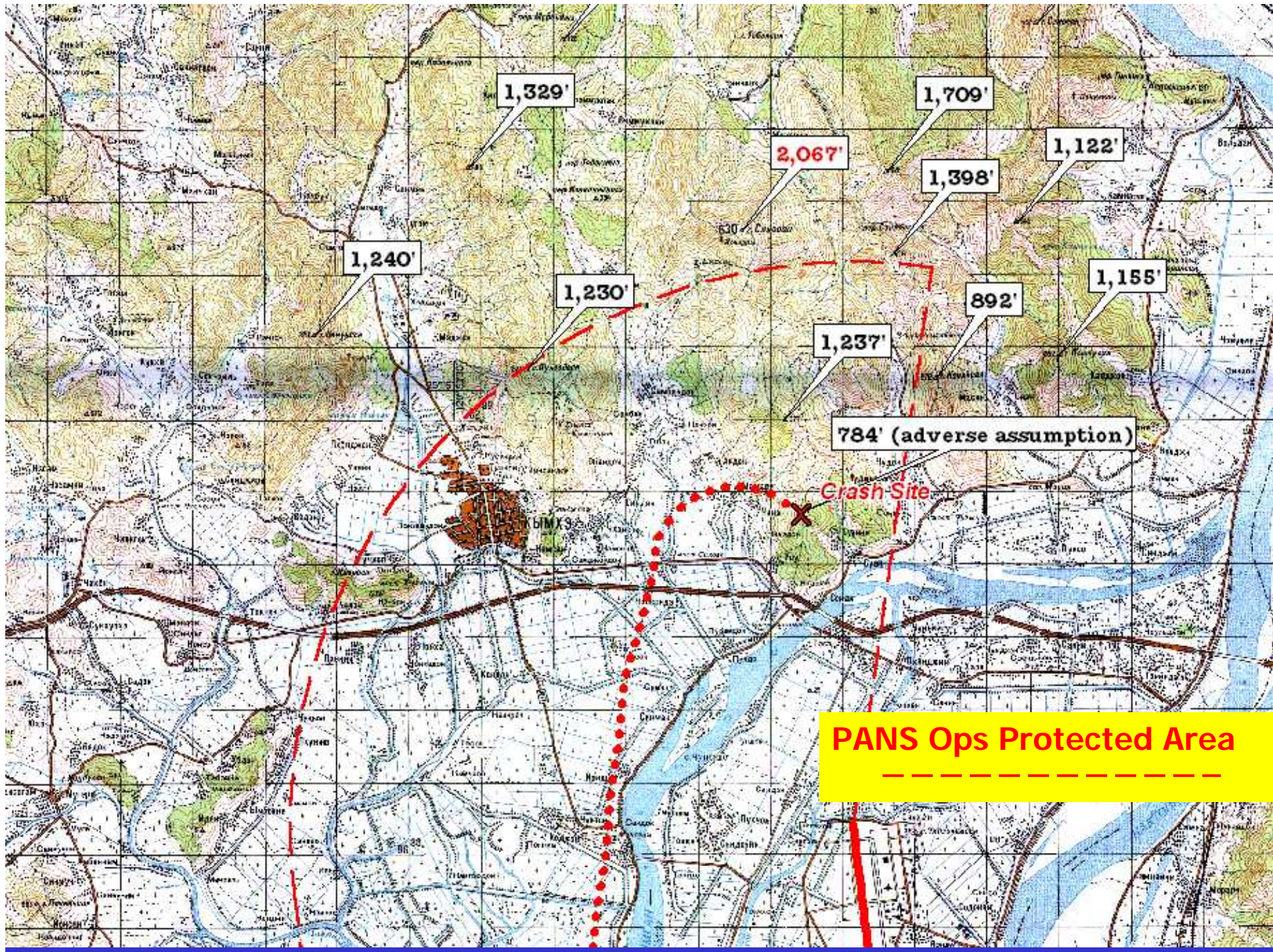


Area radius for aircraft categories (NM)

A	1.68
B	2.66
<b>C</b>	<b>4.20</b>
D	5.28

These values apply for an aerodrome elevation of 2 000 ft.







**APPROACH PROCEDURES**  
**CIRCLING APPROACH AREA**

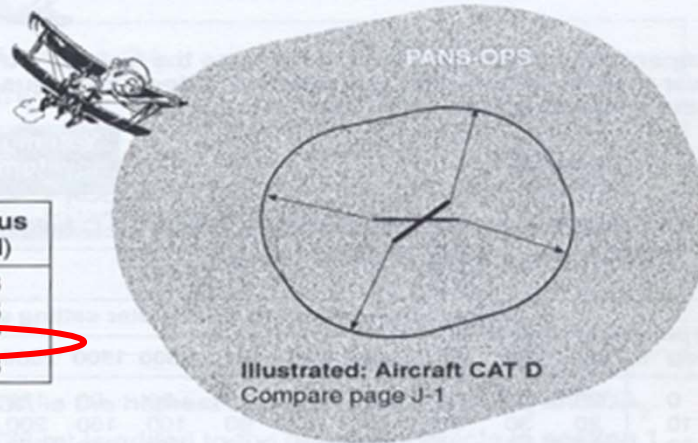
**CIRCLING APPROACH AREA**  
**FAA DEFINITION**

The area in which aircraft circle to land under visual conditions after completing an instrument approach.

The circling area is determined by drawing arcs, centred on each runway threshold and joining those arcs with tangential lines.

The radius of the arcs varies with the aircraft category (specified on page L-2):

Aircraft category	Radius (NM)
A	1.3
B	1.5
<b>C</b>	<b>1.7</b>
D	2.3



Illustrated: Aircraft CAT D  
Compare page J-1

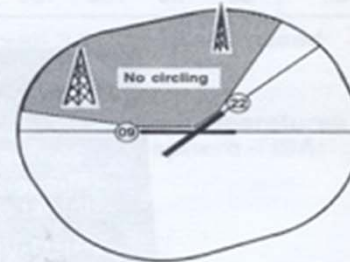
**OBSTACLE CLEARANCE**

- At least 300 ft within the entire circling area.
- There is no secondary area
- It is permissible to eliminate from consideration a sector where a prominent obstacle exists.

Circling thus will be prohibited in this sector and the restriction will be shown on the relevant approach chart:

*"Circling N/A in the sector N RWY 09 and NW RWY 22"*

- The resulting MDA must not be above the FAF altitude or below the straight-in MDA.



**TERPS APPROACH PROCEDURES**  
CIRCLING APPROACH AREA

**CIRCLING APPROACH AREA**  
FAA DEFINITION  
The area in which aircraft circle to land under visual conditions after completing an instrument approach.

The circling area is determined by drawing arcs, centred on each runway threshold and joining those arcs with tangential lines.  
The radius of the arcs varies with the aircraft category (specified on page L-2):

Aircraft category	Radius (NM)
A	1.3
B	1.5
C	1.7
D	2.3

Illustrated: Aircraft CAT D  
Compare page J-1.

**Obstacle Clearance**

- At least 300 ft within the entire circling area.
- There is no secondary area.
- It is permissible to terminate from consideration a sector where a prominent obstacle exists. Circling thus will be prohibited in this sector and the restriction will be shown on the relevant approach chart: "Circling N/A in the sector N RWY 22 and NW RWY 22".
- The resulting MDA must not be above the FAF altitude or below the straight-in MDA.

T-1

STRAIGHT-IN LANDING RWY 15L					CIRCLE-TO-LAND	
ILS DA(H) <b>223' (200')</b>			LOC (GS out) MDA(H) <b>330' (307')</b>			
	FULL	TDZ or CL out	ALS out	ALS out		
<b>PANS OPS 4</b>					A	NA
A	RVR 550m VIS 800m	RVR 720m VIS 800m	1600m	800m	B	
C				1600m	C	
D				1200m	D	

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**PANS OPS "C" 4.20 nm**

**TERPS Cat "C" 1.7 nm**

**PANS-OPS APPROACH PROCEDURES**  
CIRCLING, GENERAL

**CIRCLING APPROACH**  
ICAO DEFINITION  
An extension of an instrument approach procedure which provides for visual circling of the aerodrome prior to landing.

The circling area is determined by drawing arcs, centred on each runway threshold and joining those arcs with tangential lines. The radius of the arcs is related to:

- Aircraft category Specified on page B-1
- Speed
- Wind 25 kt throughout the turn
- Bank angle 20° or 3/8 whichever requires less bank

Aircraft category	MAX speed (kt IAS)
A	100
B	135
C	180
D	205

Area radius for aircraft categories (NM)

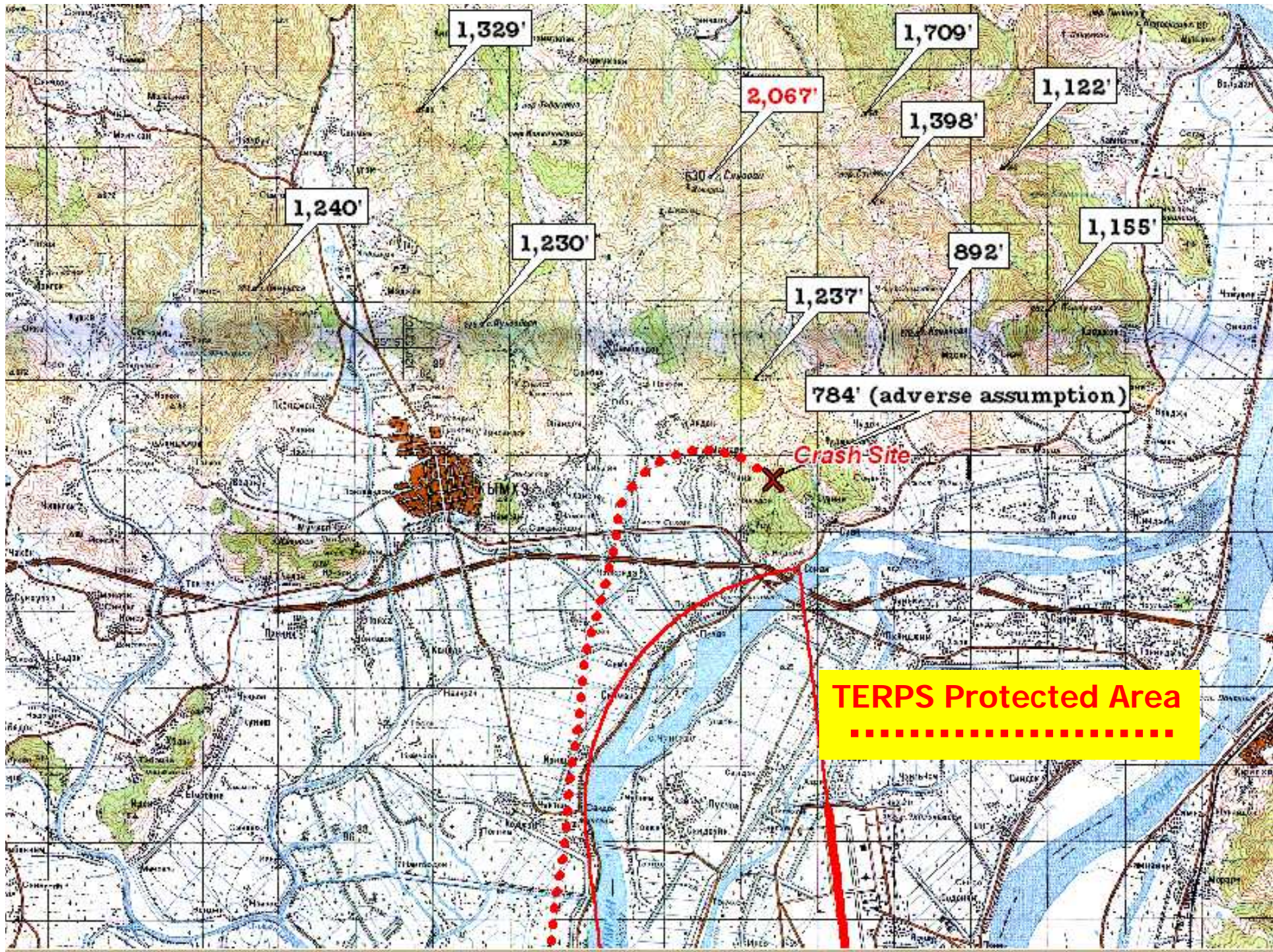
A	1.68
B	2.66
C	4.20
D	5.28

These values apply for an aerodrome elevation of 0 ft.

J-1

STRAIGHT-IN LANDING RWY 36L					CEILING REQUIRED		CIRCLE-TO-LAND	
ILS DA(H) <b>113' (200')</b>			LOC (GS out) MDA(H) <b>320' (307')</b>				Not Authorized East of Rwy 18-36	
	FULL	TDZ/CL out	ALS out	CEIL-VIS	ALS out	Max Kts	MDA(H)	CEIL-VIS
<b>TERPS</b>						90		
A						120	700' (687')	700' - 1600m
B						140	700' (687')	700' - 3200m
C	200' RVR 550m VIS 800m	200' - 800m	200' - 1200m	400' - 1200m	400' - 1600m	165	1100' (1087')	1100' - 4800m

CHANGES: Fix name from NAMPO to NARAE, airspace. © JEPPESEN SANDERSON, INC., 2001, 2006. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.



## Traps on this approach?

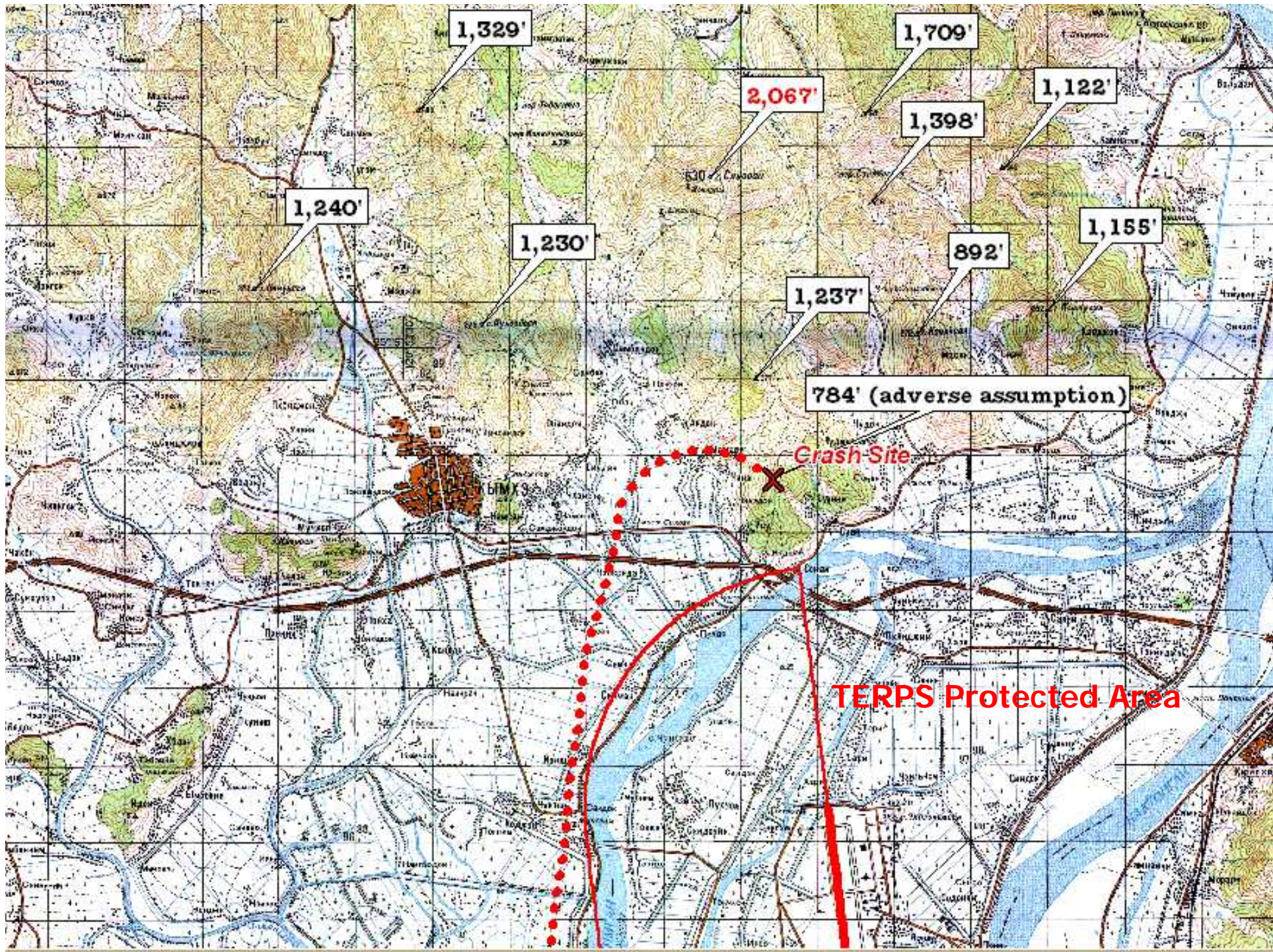
- No notice of obstacles within 4 NM of the 18R PAPI
- Downwind too close from using the same sight picture at 700 feet as used at 1500 feet to determine downwind spacing
- Forced to circle because no better approach was available
- Tailwind - started base leg late





# Traps on this approach?

- Crew not aware of TERPS Vs PANS-OPS criteria
- Chart centered South, no terrain shown North
- Captain flying right visual approach
- Threat hidden beneath nose
- No local knowledge, e.g. "Stay South of freeway"



# ALAR Risk Awareness Tool

- How to use the RAT
- How high were the risks for this flight?



Flight Safety Foundation  
**ALAR**  
Approach-and-landing Accident Reduction  
**Tool Kit**

## Approach-and-landing Risk Awareness Tool

Elements of this tool should be integrated, as appropriate, with the standard approach briefing prior to top of descent to improve awareness of factors that can increase the risk of an accident during approach and landing. The number of warning symbols (⚠) that accompany each factor indicates a relative measure of risk. Generally, the greater the number of warning symbols that accompany a factor, the greater the risk presented by that factor. Flight crews should consider carefully the effects of multiple risk factors, exercise appropriate vigilance and be prepared to conduct a go-around or a missed approach.

**Failure to recognize the need for a missed approach and to execute a missed approach, is a major cause of approach-and-landing accidents.**

### Flight Crew

- Long duty period — reduced alertness ..... ⚠⚠
- Single-pilot operation ..... ⚠⚠

### Airport Services and Equipment

- No approach radar service or airport tower service ..... ⚠⚠⚠
- No current local weather report ..... ⚠⚠
- Unfamiliar airport or unfamiliar procedures ..... ⚠⚠
- Minimal or no approach lights or runway lights ..... ⚠
- No visual approach-slope guidance — e.g., VASI/PAPI ..... ⚠
- Foreign destination — possible communication/language problems ..... ⚠

### Expected Approach

- Nonprecision approach — especially with step-down procedure or circling procedure ..... ⚠⚠⚠
- Visual approach in darkness ..... ⚠⚠
- Late runway change ..... ⚠⚠
- No published STAR ..... ⚠

### Environment

- Hilly terrain or mountainous terrain ..... ⚠⚠
- Visibility restrictions — e.g., darkness, fog, haze, IMC, low light, mist, smoke ..... ⚠⚠
- Visual illusions — e.g., sloping terrain, wet runway, whiteout/snow ..... ⚠⚠
- Wind conditions — e.g., cross wind, gusts, tail wind, wind shear ..... ⚠⚠
- Runway conditions — e.g., ice, slush, snow, water ..... ⚠⚠
- Cold-temperature effects — true altitude (actual height above mean sea level) lower than indicated altitude ..... ⚠

### Aircraft Equipment

- No GPWS/EGPWS/GCAS/TAWS ..... ⚠⚠⚠
- No radio altimeter ..... ⚠⚠⚠
- No wind shear warning system ..... ⚠
- No TCAS ..... ⚠

Definitions of acronyms appear on next page.



# Risk Mitigation

- What we can do when the risks are high
  - Mitigate, or at least acknowledge

# THANK YOU

