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# Plug your ears: Iowa Guard jets will be noisy in Des Moines

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A F-16 aircraft at the Des Moines airport



Written by William Petroski

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The Iowa Air National Guard issued a public advisory today cautioning that F-16 aircraft conducting training missions in the Des Moines area may be louder and more visible than usual.

Because of the full-depth replacement of Taxiway D at the Des Moines airport, Runway 13-31 has been closed for the duration of the construction, said Col. Gregory Hapgood Jr., the Iowa National Guard's public affairs officer. That runway is the primary one used by the Air Guard's 132nd Fighter Wing, which flies F-16 warplanes.

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As a result of the closure, the F-16s are using Runway 5-23 until the completion of the construction, which is anticipated sometime in October, Hapgood said.

"Until completion of the construction, Iowa Air National Guard F-16 fighter aircraft may be visible at lower altitudes and more audible than usual during flight operations throughout the Des Moines metropolitan area, particularly between Fleur Dr. and SW 9th St., and between Park Ave. and McKinley Ave.," Hapgood said. "Most training flights occur during daylight hours, but it is possible some night missions may also be executed during the construction project."

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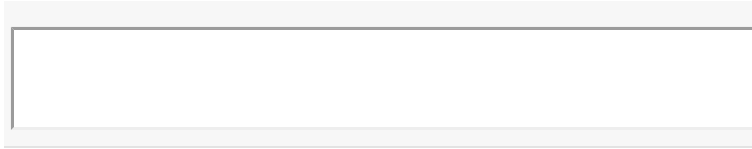
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