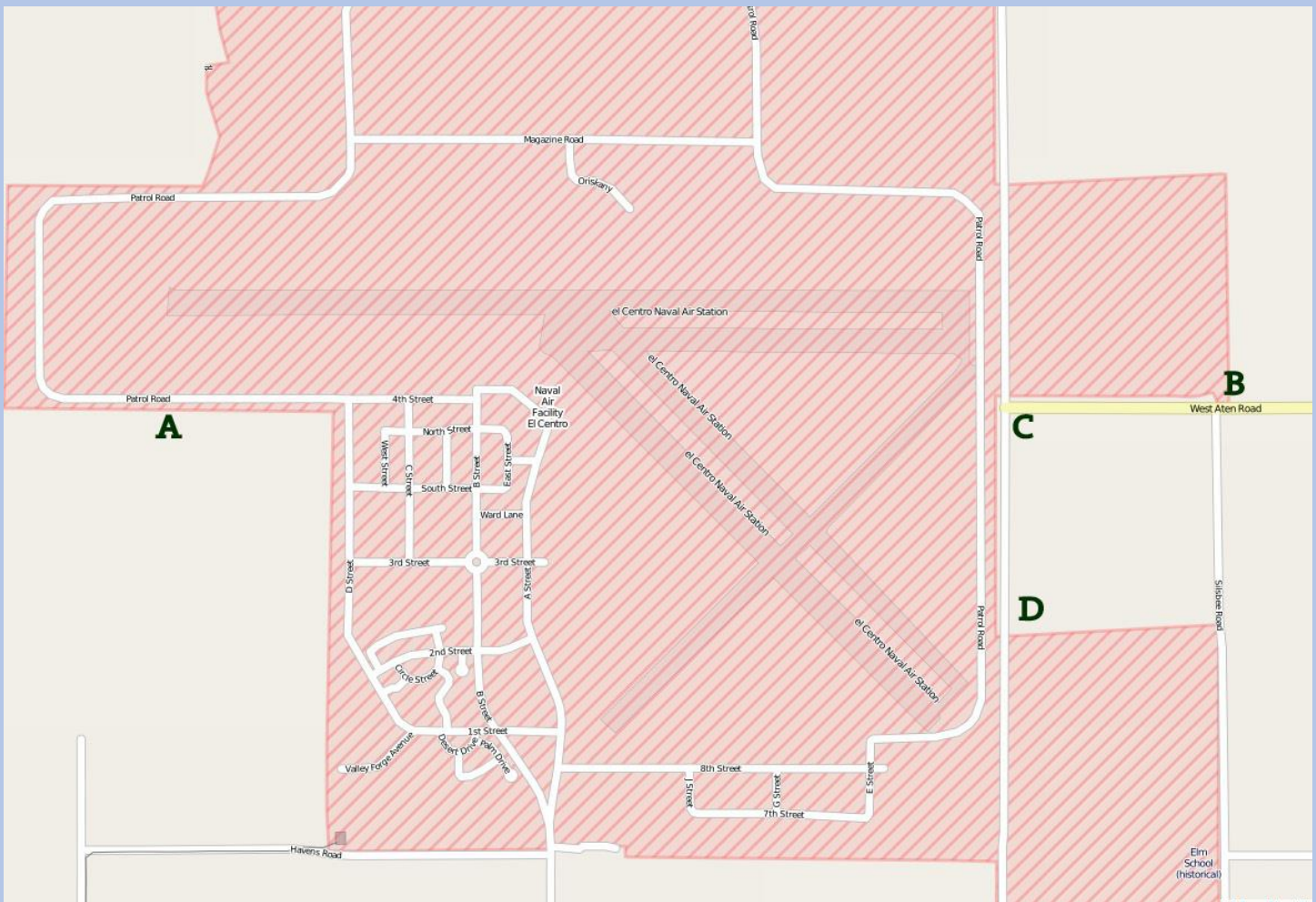


# Naval Air Facility El Centro

## Aircraft Observation Guide



\*\*\*NAF El Centro can be a great base for aircraft observation. With that being said, in order to observe aircraft outside of NAF El Centro you must register with the PAO of NAF El Centro. This can be done via phone or email. They will require the following information:

- Name, Driver's License or Passport ID# (including State/Country of issue), and vehicle information (make, model, license plate#). Date(s)/time you will be outside base and locations.

NAFEC PAO: (760) 339-2519 or email: [kristopher.haugh@navy.mil](mailto:kristopher.haugh@navy.mil)

As long as you are registered and on "the list", base security will simply drive by and wave. Please take the time to follow this procedure to ensure that you and future aircraft observers/photographers have a problem-free visit to NAF Centro. It is recommended that you carry a copy of the confirmation email you receive from the NAF PAO in the case you are questioned by base security\*\*\*

**The Canal (Location A) [GPS 32.824788, -115.688102]** – This location good for departures on runway 26 and arrivals on runway 8. To get to this location, take Bennett Rd. north towards the main entrance of the base. Just before reaching the main entrance, make a left turn on Havers Rd. (the last paved road before the main gate).

Take Havens west until you pass the water tower on the right. As soon as you pass the water tower, make a right turn on the dirt road on the west side of the canal. Take this dirt road north until it curves to the left (west). Pick an ideal location off the canal to catch the departures/arrivals. Make sure you stay on the outside of the canal so you have the flexibility to move around as needed. If you take the road inside the canal you will be restricted by the canal and the base fence.

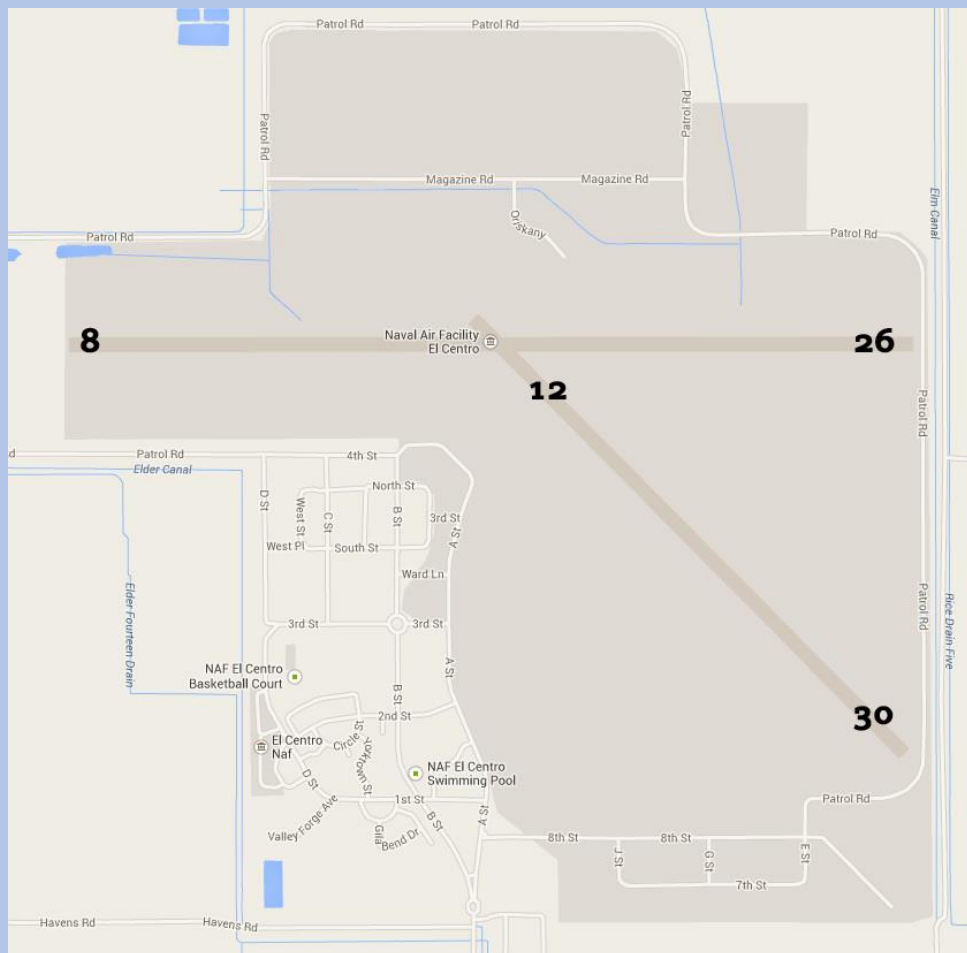
**Aten & Silsbee (Location B) [GPS 32.825888, -115.646449]** – This location is good for arrivals on runway 26 and departures on runway 8. In some cases, you can catch aircraft making the turn into final approach here. This location is on the NE corner of Silsbee and Aten. There is a dirt area here where you can park your vehicle.

**Aten & Base Fence (Location C) – [GPS 32.825600, -115.655306]** – This location is also good for arrivals on runway 26 and departures on runway 8. Take Aten Rd (it turns into a dirt road) west until you reach the base fence. There is plenty of room to park your vehicle here.

**Hay Bales (Location D) – [GPS 32.817819, -115.655116]** – This location can be good for traffic on runways 12 & 30. This is the runway that is often used by helicopters. This is a great location to catch any helo activity. After taking Aten Rd to the base fence, make a left turn along the base fence. Take this dirt road until you see the hay bales on the left.

*\*\*\*It is recommended that a scanner radio be used to monitor the traffic in and out of the base\*\*\**

## Runway Configuration



## Scanner Frequencies

Frequency	Alpha Tag	Description
269.2750	El Centro ATIS	NAF El Centro ATIS
340.2000	El Centro C/D	NAF El Centro Clearance & Delivery
254.3500	El Centro Grnd	NAF El Centro Ground
121.9000	El Centro Grnd	NAF El Centro Ground
119.1000	El Centro Tower	NAF El Centro Tower
360.2000	El Centro Tower	NAF El Centro Tower

## Disclaimer

\*\*\* The creator and/or distributor of this document makes no claim as to the legality of observing and/or photographing aircraft at the locations specified in this document. It is expected that private property is off-limits, as well as, any locations designated as such (ex- no parking/standing zones). At times, observing/photographing aircraft can be a sensitive security issue. In any case, one should always be prepared to be confronted by law enforcement/airport or base security and be respectful at all times. While one can argue on whether aircraft observation at airports and military installations is a right or privilege, during these security-sensitive times in the U.S., I prefer to look at it as a privilege and act accordingly.\*\*\*