



MASTER DIRECTIVES

UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
MARINE AIRCRAFT GROUP 12
1ST MARINE AIRCRAFT WING, MARFORPAC
UNIT 37150
FPO AP 96603-7150

GruO 6260.1D

DSS

MAR 29 1996

GROUP ORDER 6260.1D w/ch.1

From: Commanding Officer

To: Distribution List

Subj: HEARING CONSERVATION PROGRAM

Ref: (a) OPNAV 5100.230 Ch.1
(b) 29 CFR 1910.95
(c) MCO 6260.1D ch.1
(d) WgO 6260.3A ch.1
(e) Annual Industrial Hygiene Survey

1. Purpose. To provide an effective hearing conservation program for all personnel assigned to Marine Aircraft Group 12.

2. Cancellation. GruO 6260.1C.

3. Background. Exposure to potentially harmful noise has always been a problem within the aviation community. The loss of hearing not only affects the individual but also limits our effectiveness as a MAG in accomplishing the mission. Therefore, the program goal will be to prevent hearing loss by Marines of MAG-12 by identifying, minimizing and/or eliminating noise hazards and by maintaining a high awareness of noise hazards.

4. Discussion. In administering this program, there are a few dominant facts that must be kept in mind:

a. Noise-induced hearing loss is permanent. There is no known medical treatment that can correct this condition or restore hearing.

b. Most occupational hearing loss has a slow onset and therefore will not be noticed until serious impairment has already occurred.

c. Hearing loss is costly both to the individual as well as the Marine Corps, and can be prevented.

5. Scope. References (a) through (e) provide guidance for executing the hearing conservation program. Five known ways to reducing hearing loss are: (1) educating all personnel on the potential hazards, (2) identifying any hazardous noise areas, (3) reducing the amount of noise produced at the source, (4) limiting the exposure time at the source, and (5) stopping the noise from reaching the ear. With these in mind, each program at a minimum shall include the following:

a. Noise measurements and exposure analyses of work environments shall be monitored to identify potentially hazardous noise areas or sources that place personnel at risk.

b. Those areas found to have noise levels greater than 84 dB(A) (continuous or intermittent), or 140 dB peak sound pressure levels, shall be clearly marked with appropriate signs as noise hazard areas. This also includes any equipment that produces sound levels greater than 84 dB. Marking of equipment or areas will be in accordance with reference (c).

c. All personnel who enter or work in an area where operations generate noise levels of those mentioned in paragraph 5b shall wear hearing protective devices per references (c) and (d). The determination of which hearing protective device, or combination of devices, shall be worn is the responsibility of the Industrial Hygienist (IH) and shall be noted during the monitoring phase as well as written within the IH baseline/annual survey, as shown in ref (e). The primary means of protecting personnel shall be through the application of engineering or administrative controls. When both are considered to be infeasible or cost prohibitive, then personal protective equipment (PPE) (ear plugs, muffs, etc.) shall be used. PPE shall be considered only as a last resort.

d. Those personnel who are working in designated hazardous noise areas shall be identified, and a current roster of these personnel shall be maintained. All identified personnel shall receive a monitoring audiogram at least annually for as long as they are occupationally exposed to hazardous noise.

e. Training is crucial to the success of any Hearing Conservation Program. Education and training go hand in hand when it comes to the prevention of hearing loss. All personnel identified for inclusion in the hearing conservation program shall receive a minimum of one hour of initial training and refresher training annually thereafter. The training aspect of the program shall consist of the following:

(1) The elements and rationale for a hearing conservation program.

(2) The proper wearing and maintenance of hearing protection devices.

(3) The command's perspective and what each individual's responsibilities are (i.e., periodic audiometric testing, noise hazard analysis, etc.).

(4) Off-duty practices which will aid in protecting hearing.

f. Record keeping for all audiometric testing data, noise survey's, exposure evaluations and training shall meet all of the requirements contained in reference (b).

6. Action

a. Unit Commanders or Officers in Charge shall:

(1) On a collateral duty basis, appoint a hearing conservation manager to monitor the unit's hearing conservation program.

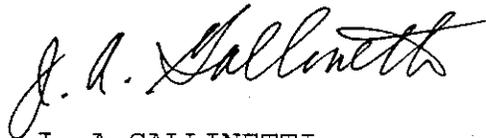
(2) This appointee shall ensure compliance with all safety precautions to protect any personnel assigned to a noise hazardous area. Guidance of this program is contained in references (a) through (c).

b. Hearing Conservation Managers

(1) Effect liaison with the MAG-12 Ground Safety Manager for the purposes of obtaining noise measurement surveys and recommendations regarding conservation. All requests for surveys will be submitted via the MAG-12 Ground Safety Manager.

(2) Meet all the requirements set forth in paragraph 5 of this order and references (a) through (d).

(3) Utilize reference (a) for training and education purposes.



J. A GALLINETTI

DISTRIBUTION: A



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

MARINE AIRCRAFT GROUP 12
1ST MARINE AIRCRAFT WING, MARFORPAC
UNIT 37150
FPO AP 96603-7161

GruO 6260.1D Ch 1
ADJ
07 MAR 2000

GROUP ORDER 6260.1D Ch 1

From: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 12
To: Distribution List

Subj: HEARING CONSERVATION PROGRAM

1. Purpose. To direct pen changes to the basic order.

2. Action

a. Change reference (a) to read "OPNAV 5100.23D" vice "OPNAV 5100.23"

b. Change reference (c) to read "MCO 6260.1D" vice "MCO 6260.1"

c. Change reference (d) to read "WgO 6260.3A" vice "WgO 6260.3"

3. Filing Instructions. File this change transmittal immediately behind the signature page of the basic order.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "J. M. Triplett".

J. M. TRIPLETT
By Direction

DISTRIBUTION: A

