



**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE**  
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE  
WASHINGTON, DC

JUL 27 2001

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION LIST

FROM: AFMOA/SGZE  
110 Luke Avenue, Room 405  
Bolling AFB, DC 20332-7050

SUBJECT: M-1 Garand Ceremonial Rifle Noise Information

Honor Guard (HG) members firing the M-1 Garand Ceremonial Rifle are exposed to hazardous impulse noise, 158 dB Sound Pressure Level (SPL). Routine unprotected exposure to hazardous impulse noise will cause hearing loss and/or tinnitus. AFOSH Std. 48-19 requires there be no unprotected exposure above 140 dB SPL. AFMOA/SGZE recommends consideration of non-linear hearing protection devices that attenuate the peak SPL to a safe level while allowing the HG firing party to hear firing commands. One such device is the Combat Earplug, NSN 6515-01-466-2710. Other types of non-linear devices are being developed and will be evaluated for DoD use.

My POC is Major Joe Narrigan, AFMOA/SGZE, 110 Luke Avenue, Room 405, Bolling AFB, DC 20332-7050, DSN 297-4330, and e-mail [joseph.narrigan@usafsg.bolling.af.mil](mailto:joseph.narrigan@usafsg.bolling.af.mil)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Forrest R. Sprester".

FORREST R. SPRESTER, Colonel, USAF, BSC  
Chief, Bioenvironmental and Occupational Health Division  
Air Force Medical Operations Agency  
Office of the Surgeon General

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