



10126.1
28 Dec 2012

MEMORANDUM

Eighth Coast Guard District Coastal Region, Auxiliary Policy Directive ADM-12-02

Subj: CLARIFICATION OF APPROVED FLIGHT CLOTHING

Ref: Auxiliary Manual, COMDTINST M16790.1 (series)

1. **PURPOSE.** The purpose of this directive is to state the policy regarding the requirements for wear of flight suits/other approved garments by members participating in the Auxiliary aviation program in District Eight Coastal Region (D8CR).

2. **DIRECTIVES AFFECTED.** None.

3. **DISCUSSION.** The green CWU-27/P flight suit is authorized for Auxiliary flight operations in the District Eight Coastal Region. When properly worn, a well maintained flight suit is designed to give the wearer approximately seven seconds delay before a catastrophic burn may occur. Protection increases if worn in multiple layers assuring that synthetic materials are not woven into any non-NOMEX fabrics i.e. elastics and blended undergarments. In southern climates, layered fabrics and even wearing the flight suit as a single layer may create a situation whereby the wearer becomes overheated, dehydrated and physically/mentally unfit to conduct flight operations. As per CG-1131's current aviation safety curriculum, dehydration poses a far more serious risk to flight operations than the possibility of an in-flight fire requiring the need for a fire-retardant suit. Protecting Auxiliary aviators from heat exhaustion and promoting aggressive hydration habits should be a primary concern in southern climates.

4. **FLIGHT SUIT REQUIREMENTS.**

a. If worn, the green CWU-27/P garment is the only authorized flight suit for Auxiliary flight operations.

5. **WHEN AUTHORIZED.** While the Auxiliary manual clearly states what flight clothing is authorized. The following is further clarification for D8CR operations. As stated in Reference (a):

- a. All Auxiliary flight personnel may wear an approved CWU-27/P flight suit.
- b. All Auxiliary flight personnel may wear any approved uniform. Non-polyester uniforms should be worn whenever possible.
- c. All Auxiliary flight personnel may wear any approved warm weather Auxiliary uniforms. **It is recommended to wear the short sleeve cotton Auxiliary t-shirt, ODU shorts, leather deck shoes or comfortable equivalent be worn.**

6. **RESPONSIBILITY.** The pilot is responsible for the safe and orderly conduct of the flight. This is not a blanket waiver for more robust anti-exposure garments which require a waiver from an Air Station Commanding Officer to deviate from the Auxiliary Manual. This memo is merely a clarification of the policy already in effect across the Auxiliary. Emphasis should be placed on the overall safety of the crew in whatever environment operations take place.

7. **PROCUREMENT:** Flight garments, including flight suits, anti-exposure coveralls, etc are not normally purchased as required items of personal protective equipment for Auxiliary personnel. Air Stations may have surplus garments and/or decide to allow Auxiliary flight personal to sign for articles as government property. It should be understood that these articles are on loan and must not be personalized or modified in any way beyond what is already prescribed in the Auxiliary manual.



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