UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
FEDERAL AVIATION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Civil Air Regulations Amendment 60-15
Effective: April 22, 1959
Issued: April 17, 1959

PART 60—AIR TRAFFIC RULES

Absence of Flight Crew Members From Their Duty Stations and Right of Way

Parts 40, 41, 42, and 46 presently contain various provisions requiring flight crew members to remain at their respective duty stations with seat belts fastened during a flight. The basic purpose of these provisions is to provide constant vigilance, attention to duties, and availability for emergency action. This operating practice has become increasingly important with the increase in air traffic and the introduction of faster civil as well as military aircraft.

Recent near collision and other incidents indicate that the failure of flight crew members to pay constant attention to their respective duties has been a contributing factor in the development of hazardous situations and that unnecessary absences from their duty stations has prevented or delayed remedial action in emergencies. Accordingly, it is necessary in the interest of safety to incorporate in the provisions of Part 60 a mandatory requirement, similar to that contained in Parts 40, 41, 42 and 46 of the Civil Air Regulations, requiring flight crew members to remain at their duty stations with seat belts fastened during flight. This requirement will then become equally applicable to all types of operations—both civil and military.

I find that the proposed amendment must be made mandatory in order to obtain uniform and optimum safe operating procedures for the prevention of collisions between aircraft. Accordingly, compliance with the notice, procedures and effective date provisions of section 4 of the Administrative Procedure Act are impracticable and contrary to the public interest and good cause exists for making this amendment effective on less than 30 days' notice. In consideration of the foregoing, Part 60 of the Civil Air Regulations (14 CFR Part 60, as amended) is hereby amended as follows effective April 22, 1959: By adding a new § 60.26 to read:

§ 60.26 Flight crew members at controls.

All required flight crew members when on flight deck duty shall remain at their respective stations while the aircraft is taking off or landing, and while en route except when the absence of one such flight crew member is necessary for the performance of his duties in connection with the operation of the aircraft. All flight crew members shall keep their seat belts fastened when at their respective stations.

(Sec. 313(a), 72 Stat. 752; 49 U.S.C. 1354(a). Interpret or apply secs. 307, 601, 72 Stat. 749, 775; 49 U.S.C. 1348, 1421)

Issued in Washington, D.C., on April 17, 1959.

E. R. QUESADA,
Administrator.

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