



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
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IN REPLY REFER TO:
OPNAVINST 1650.24C
N78
28 January 2005

OPNAV INSTRUCTION 1650.24C

From: Chief of Naval Operations
To: All Ships and Stations
Subj: CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS AVIATION-RELATED AWARDS
Ref: (a) CNAFINST 1650.15 series
Encl: (1) Gray Eagle Trophy Award
(2) Gray Owl Trophy Award
(3) Commander Theodore G. Ellyson Aviator Production Excellence Award

1. Purpose. To issue policy and procedures for selecting the annual winners of the Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Awards listed in enclosures (1) through (3). This instruction is a complete revision and should be reviewed in its entirety.

2. Cancellation. OPNAVINST 1650.24B.

3. General

a. Awards will be presented by the CNO or a designated representative at a ceremony offering maximum publicity.

b. Award sponsors request that trophies be returned to the sponsor in adequate time for engraving and presentation to subsequent award recipients.

c. Chief of Naval Operations (N09F) is the awarding authority for Aviation Safety Awards. See OPNAVINST 1650.28.

d. For other awards, see reference (a).

4. Cognizance. CNO (N78A) has cognizance over enclosures (1) and (2). CNO (N00T) has cognizance over enclosure (3).

5. Report. Reporting requirement contained in section 211.b(3)(h) is exempt from reports control by SECNAVINST 5214.2B.

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Director, Air Warfare

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GRAY EAGLE TROPHY AWARD

1. In 1960, Chance Vought Aircraft, Inc., (now Northrop Grumman), proposed a company-sponsored award to honor the naval aviator on the active duty list, not recalled, who had held that designation for the longest period of time--the award to be passed to the next earliest designated naval aviator on the active duty list, not recalled, when the incumbent retired. The proposal was accepted by the Navy, and the first formal presentation of the Gray Eagle Trophy was held in January 1961. At the same time all previous holders of the distinction of being the earliest designated naval aviator on active duty were honored, and either the principals or their next of kin were presented with miniature replicas of the trophy as personal mementos. The trophy is in the form of an aircraft carrier with an eagle landing on the deck. The inscription on the trophy reads:

"In recognition of a clear eye, a stout heart, a steady hand, and a daring defiance of gravity and the law of averages."

The name of each recipient and the dates the title of Gray Eagle was held are appropriately engraved on the trophy.

2. Eligibility for the title of Gray Eagle and entitlement to the trophy is determined from the official active duty precedence list. It shall be that naval aviator on active duty, not recalled, whose date of designation precedes that of any other naval aviator. In the event that two or more aviators on active duty have been designated on the same date, the senior one qualifies as the Gray Eagle. The trophy is passed on to each succeeding Gray Eagle. In addition, a miniature replica is presented to each incumbent as a personal memento.

3. By virtue of being qualified for the Gray Eagle Trophy, which will invariably represent long years of dedicated service to the Navy or Marine Corps, the recipient will be a symbol of progress and prestige. Accordingly, the presentation ceremonies, while perhaps light, will be nonetheless dignified. Such presentations should be conducted as near as practicable to the official date of succession, with both the principals present, unless physically impossible.

Enclosure (1)

4. The Director, Air Warfare Division (CNO (N78)) will maintain the official precedence list of prospective Gray Eagles according to the established rules and, when a transfer of the trophy is forthcoming, will inform the principals of such an impending transfer well in advance of the date. In addition, the Director, Air Warfare Division (CNO (N78)) will designate a command to arrange for appropriate ceremonies per the wishes of the principals involved.

5. The Gray Eagle Trophy may be kept in possession of and displayed by the command to which the Gray Eagle is assigned. Otherwise, it may be placed in the custody of the Director, National Museum of Naval Aviation on a temporary basis until required for presentation to the successor.

GRAY OWL TROPHY AWARD

1. In 1979, Grumman Aerospace Corporation proposed a company-sponsored award to honor the Naval Flight Officer (132X/758X) on active duty who has held that designation for the longest period of commissioned service, the award to be passed to the next earliest designated Naval Flight Officer on active duty when the incumbent retires. The proposal was accepted and the first formal presentation of the Gray Owl Trophy was held in June 1979. This trophy is in the form of a sculpture of an owl mounted on a mahogany base. The name of each recipient and the date the title of Gray Owl was held are appropriately engraved on the trophy.
2. Eligibility for the title of Gray Owl and entitlement to the trophy is determined from the official precedence list. Determination of date of designation will take into account directly related designators that are recognized equivalent precursors of the 132X/758X/7576/7525 designator. In the event that two or more Naval Flight Officers on active duty have been designated on the same date, the senior one qualifies as the Gray Owl. In addition, a miniature replica is presented to each incumbent as a personal memento.
3. By virtue of being qualified for the Gray Owl Trophy, which will by definition represent long years of dedicated service to the Navy or Marine Corps, the recipient will be a symbol of stalwart and intrepid professionalism. Accordingly, the presentation ceremonies, while perhaps light, will be nonetheless dignified. Such presentation would be conducted as near as practicable to the official date of succession with both the principals present, unless physically impossible.
4. The Director, Air Warfare Division (CNO (N78)) will maintain the official precedence list of prospective Gray Owls according to the established rules and, when a transfer of the trophy is forthcoming, will inform the principals of such an impending transfer well in advance of the date. In addition, the Director, Air Warfare Division (CNO (N78)) will designate a command to arrange for appropriate ceremonies following the wishes of the principals involved.
5. The Gray Owl Trophy may be kept in possession of and displayed by the command to which the Gray Owl is assigned. Otherwise, it may be planed in the custody of the Director, National Museum of Naval Aviation on a temporary basis until required for presentation to the successor.

Enclosure (2)

COMMANDER THEODORE G. ELLYSON AVIATOR PRODUCTION
EXCELLENCE AWARD

1. The award is named in honor of Commander Theodore G. Ellyson, USN, who was the first naval officer to undergo aviation training and who was designated Naval Aviator #1 in January 1914. Throughout his career, Commander Ellyson was instrumental in the development of all facets of naval aviation including the establishment of the first flight training sites, which were termed Naval Aviation Camps, at Annapolis and San Diego. The sponsor of this award is the Thomas Group based in Irving, Texas. A Thomas Group representative will present a plaque to each of the five awardees at the Association of Naval Aviation annual convention.

2. All Navy and Marine Corps Fleet Replacement Squadrons and all CNATRA training squadrons are eligible to receive the Aviator Production Excellence Award.

3. Selection of the winners will be based on the following considerations:

a. Fleet Replacement Squadrons (FRS) - Awarded to the most efficient COMNAVAIRLANT, COMNAVAIRPAC and Marine squadrons based on a percentage of Cockpit Chart Metrics and completion criteria:

(1) Meeting Fleet requirement (as determined by CNO (N00T) FY production plan output for CAT 1 pilots/NFOs): 40 percent maximum graduated downward (Percentage of goal attained times .40 equals score).

(2) Dynamic Cycle Time: 30% maximum graduated downward 1 point per 2% in excess of entitlement (CNO syllabus plus entitled pre-load time).

(3) TYCOM/HQMC recommendation: 30% maximum (based on improvement, creativity, and community initiative).

b. Chief of Naval Air Training Squadrons - Awarded to the most efficient training squadrons (one primary and one advanced) based on a successful completion of the following criteria:

(1) Meeting production plan (as determined by OPNAV Integrated Production Plan (IPP): 50% maximum graduated downward (percentage of goal attained times .50, subtracted from 50, equals score).

Enclosure (3)

(2) Average Production Time to Train (PTT): 15% maximum graduated downward 2% per week in excess of entitlement. Additional points can be awarded for PTT below entitlement on the same 2% per week scale. (CNO syllabus plus entitled pre-load time).

(3) On-Time Delivery: 25% maximum graduated downward (sum of any negative deltas between actual vs. planned monthly on-time delivery divided by FY production goal (IPP) times 25, subtracted from 25 equals score). See following computation example.

Computation Example:

	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	TOTAL
Monthly IPP	5	4	4	6	5	5	4	5	5	4	5	6	58
Actual OTD	3	6	4	7	5	4	4	1	6	7	5	6	58
Negative Delta	-2					-1		-4					-7

$$25 - (7/58 * 25) = 21.98$$

This equation penalizes the squadron for not meeting OTD but does not double penalize the squadron for making up the students that were missed. While this squadron met their correct FY production total, their on-time delivery (consistent student throughput in accordance with IPP) was not as efficient as a squadron which delivered all students exactly in the month scheduled and achieved a delta of 0 throughout an entire year (perfect OTD).

(4) Chief of Naval Air Training (CNATRA) recommendation: 10% maximum (based on improvement, creativity, and community initiative).

4. No additional written or data input is desired from Fleet Replacement or Training Squadrons.

5. Action

a. By January 31st, Commander Naval Air Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet, (N80), Commander Naval Air Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, (N80), and the Commandant of the Marine Corps (ASM) will submit one nominee each to the Chief of Naval Air Training (N5).

Note 1: Commander, U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Atlantic and Commander, U.S. Marine Forces, Pacific, will forward one nominee

Enclosure (3)

each to CMC (ASM). CMC (ASM) will forward one Marine Corps recommendation to CNATRA N5.

b. Chief of Naval Air Training (N5) will consolidate inputs and provide OPNAV N00T with the selected awardees as approved by the Naval Aviator Production Team.

c. A Chief of Naval Operations (CNO)-appointed awards committee, CNATRA Aviation awards committee, will select five squadrons which demonstrate the greatest efficiency in meeting the Fleet requirement for pilots and naval flight officers within the CNO-approved syllabus time to receive the Commander Theodore G. Ellyson Aviator Production Excellence Award. One Fleet Replacement Squadron from AIRLANT, one from AIRPAC, one Marine Corps, and two Training Squadrons (one primary, one advanced) from CNATRA will be selected.

d. The Chief of Naval Operations (N00T) will coordinate release of naval message announcing the winners, delivery of plaques to the squadrons and unit citations from CNO. This award will normally be presented at the Association of Naval Aviation Annual Convention.

Enclosure (3)