

No. 99-03

Subject:

Red Pepper Extract Aerosol Products (Bear Repellent Spray)

Distribution:

All DOI Aviation Activities

Discussion: Red pepper extract aerosol products such as bear repellent spray and personal defense spray are classified as hazardous materials. There have been reports of valve failures for this product. These sprays affect humans exactly like tear gas by producing tears and coughing and results in incapacitated crew and passengers when improperly handled. The following precautions are recommended to safely transport bear repellent on DOI aircraft:

Recommendations:

1. Pilots must be notified when these devices are carried on aircraft (pilots, however, are not required to transport them for passengers.)
2. If pilots elect to carry these devices, they should be well protected and placed in a cargo compartment that does not share or exchange air with the crew or passenger cabins. Examples are float compartments or other isolated compartments.
3. If an isolated compartment is not available, it may be placed in an airtight container, with absorbent interior packing to cushion and immobilize the device.

If you have questions regarding this subject please contact your OAS Area/Regional Office:

Alaska Regional Office (Anchorage)	907-271-3700
East Area Office (Atlanta)	770-458-7474
West Area Office (Boise)	208-334-9310
West Area Office (Phoenix)	602-640-2633

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