

AL-TR-1992-0033

AD-A257 152



ARMSTRONG

LABORATORY

**S** DTIC  
ELECTE  
NOV 13 1992  
**A D**

# MEASUREMENT AND EVALUATION OF BLAST OVERPRESSURE DURING F-15A CREW STATION VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT TEST

Harald K. Hille

OCCUPATIONAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DIRECTORATE  
BIOENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING DIVISION

DECEMBER 1991

92-29403



FINAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD MARCH 1991 TO DECEMBER 1991

Approved for public release; distribution is unlimited.

92 11 1 009

AIR FORCE SYSTEMS COMMAND

## NOTICES

When US Government drawings, specifications, or other data are used for any purpose other than a definitely related Government procurement operation, the Government thereby incurs no responsibility nor any obligation whatsoever, and the fact that the Government may have formulated, furnished, or in any way supplied the said drawings, specifications, or other data, is not to be regarded by implication or otherwise, as in any manner, licensing the holder or any other person or corporation, or conveying any rights or permission to manufacture, use or sell any patented invention that may in any way be related thereto.

Please do not request copies of this report from the Armstrong Laboratory. Additional copies may be purchased from:

National Technical Information Service  
5285 Port Royal Road  
Springfield VA 22161

Federal Government agencies and their contractors registered with Defense Technical Information Center should direct requests for copies of this report to:

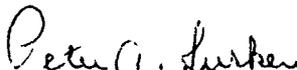
Defense Technical Information Center  
Cameron Station  
Alexandria VA 22314

### TECHNICAL REVIEW AND APPROVAL

AL-TR-1992-0033

This report has been reviewed by the Office of Public Affairs (PA) and is releasable to the National Technical Information Service (NTIS). At NTIS, it will be available to the general public, including foreign nations.

This technical report has been reviewed and is approved for publication.

  
PETER A. LURKER, Lt Col, USAF, BSC  
Acting Director  
Biodynamics and Biocommunications Division  
Armstrong Laboratory

# REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE

*Form Approved*  
OMB No 0704-0188

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1 hour per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to Washington Headquarters Services, Directorate for Information Operations and Reports, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 1204, Arlington, VA 22202-4302 and to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0704-0188), Washington, DC 20503

<b>1. AGENCY USE ONLY (Leave blank)</b>		<b>2. REPORT DATE</b> Dec 91	<b>3. REPORT TYPE AND DATES COVERED</b> Final Report for Period Mar 91-Dec 91	
<b>4. TITLE AND SUBTITLE</b> Measurement and Evaluation of Blast Overpressure during F-15A Crew Station Vulnerability Assessment Test			<b>5. FUNDING NUMBERS</b> PE: 62202F PR: 7231 TA: 34 WU: 72312001	
<b>6. AUTHOR(S)</b>  Harald K. Hille			<b>7. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES)</b> Noise Effects Branch, Armstrong Laboratory Bioenvironmental Engineering Division Human Systems Division Wright-Patterson AFB OH 45433-6573	
<b>8. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION REPORT NUMBER</b>  AL-TR-1992-0033			<b>9. SPONSORING / MONITORING AGENCY NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES)</b>	
<b>10. SPONSORING / MONITORING AGENCY REPORT NUMBER</b>			<b>11. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES</b>	
<b>12a. DISTRIBUTION / AVAILABILITY STATEMENT</b>  Approved for public release; distribution is unlimited.			<b>12b. DISTRIBUTION CODE</b>  A	
<b>13. ABSTRACT (Maximum 200 words)</b>  From March 1991 to May 1991 blast overpressures were measured from 21 different projectiles striking a section of the F-15 fuselage to assess potential crew hazards. The velocity of the fired projectiles ranged from 1500 ft/sec to 5000 ft/sec and the lowest overpressure which was recorded was 7 PSF or 145 dB and the highest level recorded was 1875 PSF or 194 dB sound pressure level (re 20 $\mu$ Pa). Time histories for each recording and the sound exposure spectrum levels as a function of frequency are presented. A hearing damage risk assessment was made in the context of the Air Force hearing damage risk criteria (AFR 161-35) and laboratory data regarding the effects of high level impulses on man.				
<b>14. SUBJECT TERMS</b> Acoustics, Blast Overpressure, Hearing Loss Ear Muffs			<b>15. NUMBER OF PAGES</b> x 71	
			<b>16. PRICE CODE</b>	
<b>17. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF REPORT</b> UNCLASSIFIED	<b>18. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF THIS PAGE</b> UNCLASSIFIED	<b>19. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF ABSTRACT</b> UNCLASSIFIED	<b>20. LIMITATION OF ABSTRACT</b> UNLIMITED	

## GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING SF 298

The Report Documentation Page (RDP) is used in announcing and cataloging reports. It is important that this information be consistent with the rest of the report, particularly the cover and title page. Instructions for filling in each block of the form follow. It is important to *stay within the lines* to meet optical scanning requirements.

**Block 1. Agency Use Only (Leave blank).**

**Block 2. Report Date.** Full publication date including day, month, and year, if available (e.g. 1 Jan 88). Must cite at least the year.

**Block 3. Type of Report and Dates Covered.** State whether report is interim, final, etc. If applicable, enter inclusive report dates (e.g. 10 Jun 87 - 30 Jun 88).

**Block 4. Title and Subtitle.** A title is taken from the part of the report that provides the most meaningful and complete information. When a report is prepared in more than one volume, repeat the primary title, add volume number, and include subtitle for the specific volume. On classified documents enter the title classification in parentheses.

**Block 5. Funding Numbers.** To include contract and grant numbers; may include program element number(s), project number(s), task number(s), and work unit number(s). Use the following labels:

C - Contract	PR - Project
G - Grant	TA - Task
PE - Program Element	WU - Work Unit Accession No

**Block 6. Author(s).** Name(s) of person(s) responsible for writing the report, performing the research, or credited with the content of the report. If editor or compiler, this should follow the name(s).

**Block 7. Performing Organization Name(s) and Address(es).** Self-explanatory

**Block 8. Performing Organization Report Number.** Enter the unique alphanumeric report number(s) assigned by the organization performing the report

**Block 9. Sponsoring/Monitoring Agency Name(s) and Address(es).** Self-explanatory

**Block 10. Sponsoring/Monitoring Agency Report Number (If known)**

**Block 11. Supplementary Notes.** Enter information not included elsewhere such as: Prepared in cooperation with...; Trans of...; To be published in... When a report is revised, include a statement whether the new report supersedes or supplements the older report

**Block 12a. Distribution/Availability Statement.** Denotes public availability or limitations. Cite any availability to the public. Enter additional limitations or special markings in all capitals (e.g. NOFORN, REL, ITAR)

**DOD** - See DoDD 5230.24, "Distribution Statements on Technical Documents."

**DOE** - See authorities.

**NASA** - See Handbook NHB 2200.2

**NTIS** - Leave blank

**Block 12b. Distribution Code.**

**DOD** - Leave blank.

**DOE** - Enter DOE distribution category from the Standard Distribution for Unclassified Scientific and Technical Reports.

**NASA** - Leave blank

**NTIS** - Leave blank

**Block 13. Abstract.** Include a brief (Maximum 200 words) factual summary of the most significant information contained in the report.

**Block 14. Subject Terms.** Keywords or phrases identifying major subjects in the report

**Block 15. Number of Pages.** Enter the total number of pages

**Block 16. Price Code.** Enter appropriate price code (NTIS only)

**Blocks 17. - 19. Security Classifications.** Self-explanatory. Enter U.S. Security Classification in accordance with U.S. Security Regulations (i.e., UNCLASSIFIED). If form contains classified information, stamp classification on the top and bottom of the page

**Block 20. Limitation of Abstract.** This block must be completed to assign a limitation to the abstract. Enter either UL (unlimited) or SAR (same as report). An entry in this block is necessary if the abstract is to be limited. If blank, the abstract is assumed to be unlimited

PREFACE

This report was prepared by the Noise Effects Branch, Armstrong Laboratory in conjunction with a vulnerability assessment test of the F-15A crew station conducted by the Survivability Enhancement Branch, WL/FIST.

The author gratefully acknowledges Capt Denise West, AL/CFBA for her assistance in preparing the hearing assessment chapter, and Mr Henry T. Mohlman for his assistance in the graphic display of the data. The author is also thankful to Ms Jackie Brenneman and Ms Bea Heflin for the preparation of this report for publishing and to Mr Jerry Speakman for his editorial comments.

Accession For	
NTIS CRA&I	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DTIC TAB	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unannounced	<input type="checkbox"/>
Justification .....	
By .....	
Distribution/	
Availability Codes	
Dist	Availability for Special
A-1	

DTIC QUALITY INSPECTED 4

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
PREFACE . . . . .	iii
TABLE OF CONTENTS . . . . .	v
LIST OF TABLES AND FIGURES . . . . .	vi-ix
INTRODUCTION . . . . .	1
TEST CONDITIONS AND PROCEDURES . . . . .	2
HEARING DAMAGE RISK ASSESSMENT . . . . .	5
CONCLUSION . . . . .	6
REFERENCES . . . . .	61

## LIST OF TABLES AND FIGURES

<u>Table</u>	<u>Page</u>
1 F-15A Live Fire Test - Test Matrix	7
2 F-15A Live Fire Test - Cockpit Max Overpressure	8
3 F-15A Live Fire Test - Comparison of Max Overpressure	9
4 Auditory Response to Blast Overpressure	10

### Figure

1 Time History - Sound Exposure Spectrum Level Test No 5 - Right Ear	11
2 Time History - Sound Exposure Spectrum Level Test No 5 - Left Ear	12
3 Time History - Sound Exposure Spectrum Level Test No 5 - Lower Torso	13
4 Time History - Sound Exposure Spectrum Level Test No 9 - Right Ear	14
5 Time History - Sound Exposure Spectrum Level Test No 9 - Left Ear	15
6 Time History - Sound Exposure Spectrum Level Test No 9 - Upper Torso	16
7 Time History - Sound Exposure Spectrum Level Test No 9 - Lower Torso	17
8 Time History - Sound Exposure Spectrum level Test No 10 - Left Ear	18
9 Time History - Sound Exposure Spectrum Level Test No 10 - Upper Torso	19

<u>Figure</u>	<u>Page</u>
10 Time History - Sound Exposure Spectrum Level Test No 11 - Left Ear	20
11 Time History - Sound Exposure Spectrum Level Test No 11 - Upper Torso	21
12 Time History - Sound Exposure Spectrum Level Test No 11 - Lower Torso	22
13 Time History - Sound Exposure Spectrum Level Test No 12 - Left Ear	23
14 Time History - Sound Exposure Spectrum Level Test No 12 - Lower Torso	24
15 Time History - Sound Exposure Spectrum Level Test No 14 - Lower Torso	25
16 Time History - Sound Exposure Spectrum Level Test No 15 - Lower Torso	26
17 Time History - Sound Exposure Spectrum Level Test No 15 - Upper Torso	27
18 Time History - Sound Exposure Spectrum Level Test No 17 - Right Ear	28
19 Time History - Sound Exposure Spectrum Level Test No 17 - Left Ear	29
20 Time History - Sound Exposure Spectrum Level Test No 17 - Lower Torso	30
21 Time History - Sound Exposure Spectrum Level Test No 18 - Upper Torso	31
22 Time History - Sound Exposure Spectrum Level Test No 18 - Lower Torso	32
23 Time History - Sound Exposure Spectrum Level Test No 19 - Right Ear	33
24 Time History - Sound Exposure Spectrum Level Test No 19 - Upper Torso	34
25 Time History - Sound Exposure Spectrum Level Test No 19 - Lower Torso	35

<u>Figure</u>	<u>Page</u>
26 Time History - Sound Exposure Spectrum Level Test No 20 - Right Ear	36
27 Time History - Sound Exposure Spectrum Level Test No 20 - Left Ear	37
28 Time History - Sound Exposure Spectrum Level Test No 20 - Upper Torso	38
29 Time History - Sound Exposure Spectrum Level Test No - Lower Torso	39
30 Time History - Sound Exposure Spectrum Level Test No 22 - Left Ear	40
31 Time History - Sound Exposure Spectrum Level Test No 22 - Lower Torso	41
32 Time History - Sound Exposure Spectrum Level Test No 23 - Right Ear	42
33 Time History - Sound Exposure Spectrum Level Test No 23 - Left Ear	43
34 Time History - Sound Exposure Spectrum Level Test No 23 - Upper Torso	44
35 Time History - Sound Exposure Spectrum Level Test No 23 - Lower Torso	45
36 Time History - Sound Exposure Spectrum Level Test No 24 - Right Ear	46
37 Time History - Sound Exposure Spectrum Level Test No 24 - Left Ear	47
38 Time History - Sound Exposure Spectrum Level Test No 24 - Upper Torso	48
39 Time History - Sound Exposure Spectrum Level Test No 24 - Lower Torso	49
40 Time History - Sound Exposure Spectrum Level Test No 25 - Right Ear	50
41 Time History - Sound Exposure Spectrum Level Test No 25 - Upper Torso	51

<u>Figure</u>	<u>Page</u>
42 Time History - Sound Exposure Spectrum Level Test No 25 - Lower Torso	52
43 Time History - Sound Exposure Spectrum Level Test No 25 - Right Ear	53
44 Time History - Sound Exposure Spectrum Level Test No 26 - Left Ear	54
45 Time History - Sound Exposure Spectrum Level Test No 26 - Upper Torso	55
46 Time History - Sound Exposure Spectrum Level Test No 26 - Lower Torso	56
47 Time History - Sound Exposure Spectrum Level Test No 27 - Right Ear	57
48 Time History - Sound Exposure Spectrum Level Test No 27 - Left Ear	58
49 Time History - Sound Exposure Spectrum Level Test No 27 - Upper Torso	59
50 Time History - Sound Exposure Spectrum Level Test No 27 Lower Torso	60

## INTRODUCTION

A live fire test was conducted to evaluate the vulnerability of a F-15 pilot to the impact of ballistic projectiles striking the F-15 crew station. The primary emphasis of this test program was the evaluation of pilot shielding, premature initiation of the emergency escape system and the possible disabling of the mechanical and electrical flight control system. As part of this test program the blast overpressure was measured from 21 different projectiles/velocities/directions striking a section of the F-15 fuselage (Fuselage Station FS 250.5 to FS 415) to assess potential crew hazards. A manikin placed in the cockpit was instrumented with four pressure transducers to measure the overpressure at the right and left ear and at the upper and lower torso. Time histories for each recording and the sound exposure spectrum levels as a function of frequency are presented. A hearing damage risk assessment is made in the context of the Air Force hearing damage risk criteria (AFR 161-35)<sup>3</sup>, and laboratory data<sup>4</sup> regarding the effects of intense blast overpressures on man.

## TEST CONDITIONS AND PROCEDURES

During this program tests were conducted using 21 different projectiles aimed and fired at the F-15 fuselage section, installed at Range 2 of the Aircraft Survivability Research Facility (ASRF), WPAFB, OH. The F-15 cockpit with manikin was installed in a fixture, to allow a rotation in place to achieve shotlines from above, below and either side. The projectiles used for each test with the different charges, velocities and directions are listed in Table 1 TEST MATRIX. The tests were typically conducted every two days to allow time for repair of damages to the fuselage section caused by the different projectile strikes and for removal and examination of the manikin.

The gun, firing the different projectiles, was placed for most tests at a distance of 15 feet from the crew station. The velocity of the fired projectiles ranged from 1500 ft/sec to 5000 ft/sec and by computing and comparing the traveling times of the projectiles and the speed of sound, in most cases the actual overpressure from the impact of the projectile was recorded. Although at the lower projectile velocities contamination of the recorded signal from the gun fire noise may have occurred due to the small difference in the velocity of the projectile and the speed of sound.

### Instrumentation

The cockpit with the manikin in place was instrumented with four pressure transducers. One each transducer was mounted at the seat approximately 4 inches away from the helmet of the manikin next to the area of the right and left ear. One transducer was placed near the midline of the upper torso and the fourth transducer was positioned near the midline of the lower torso. The placement of the transducers with a dimension of 0.7 inches in diameter and 1.6 inches long did not interfere with the positioning of the ballistic projectile strikes to the manikin. The transducers were piezo-electric microphones with a frequency response from 0.5 Hz - 10000 Hz and a measurement range from 0.005 psf to 1200 psf (80 dB to 190 dB SPL sound pressure level). They are totally sealed and the extreme environments experienced during these tests did not affect the accuracy.

The signal from each transducer was recorded by the BOOM EVENT ANALYZER RECORDER (BEAR).<sup>1</sup> Four such devices were employed since this unit is a single channel instrument specially developed for recording impulsive type overpressures. This instrument is based on a 16 bit microprocessor that continuously samples the background noise and captures and stores the waveforms of any intense impulsive noise. The BEAR digitizes the signal from the microphone at a sampling rate of 8 kHz and has a frequency range

from 0.5 Hz to 2500 Hz with a dynamic range of 80 dB. The data from the BEAR is stored in removable RAM modules with a memory of 512 kbytes. The data on the modules are transferred via a Data Retrieval Unit (DRU) and then interfaced with a computer and existing software for processing. The unit is self-contained and can operate for up to seven days without replacing the batteries.

An acoustical calibration signal was applied to each system shortly before each test to assure proper operation. Any change in signal level was adjusted to obtain an accuracy of +/- 1 dB for all test data.

Four additional pressure transducers were installed alongside the BEAR microphones. The output of these transducers were connected to the ASRF on-site data acquisition system and provided an instantaneous readout of the overpressures generated during the impact of projectiles. This additional capability complimented the BEAR instrumentation. It extended the measurement range of up to 50 psi (7200 psf) or 204 dB sound pressure level.

#### Data Analysis

In these tests, the BEAR recorder was triggered by the overpressure generated from the projectile impact and/or explosion inside the crew station and the captured acoustical signal was stored in the RAM modules. The data stored in these modules were transferred through the Data Retrieval Unit (DRU) to a Z-100 computer which processed and displayed each recorded event, time of occurrence and summary information for all data stored. This analysis was performed the same day after each test, to ensure proper operation of the systems and allow for any adjustments necessary for the next test. The overpressures were analyzed in terms of maximum overpressure in pounds/sqft, max sound pressure level in dB re 20  $\mu$ Pa and sound exposure spectrum level (1Hz bandwidth) as a function of frequency. In addition a time history was plotted for each recorded firing. Reviewing the analyzed data of the blast overpressures with such sharp rise times, one would expect significant energy at higher frequencies. However the frequency spectrum analysis of the data showed that the levels at 2500 Hz were significantly reduced. Therefore the peak noise levels should not be affected since they are only partly influenced by the high frequency content of the spectrum.

The data are plotted in Fig.1 through Fig.50. The lowest overpressure which was recorded was 7 psf or 145 dB and the highest level recorded was 1875 psf or 193 dB sound pressure level. Table 2 COCKPIT MAX OVERPRESSURE (PSF) and MAX SPL (dB) summarizes the data for each test and location. During some tests a signal was not recorded due to electro-magnetic interference which rendered the system inoperable or the threshold levels were set too high and the BEAR did not record the event. However, it can be seen that the sound pressure levels recorded in the cockpit are fairly uniformly distributed, although the projectiles were fired from different elevations and

azimuths.

In Table 3 COMPARISON OF MAX OVERPRESSURE a comparison was made between overpressures as recorded by the BEARs and as measured by the ASRF on-site data acquisition system. The levels as recorded by the on-site system are listed in italics. Agreement between the two recorded overpressures is reasonable since one can expect a difference in level due to the placement and mounting of the microphone.

Transducers were also installed at the upper torso and lower torso. The data were analyzed and are presented in the same format as the data recorded at earlevel. Analysis for nonauditory damage such as injury to the lung or other internal organs was not performed. In the literature the estimated threshold for lung damage is reported to occur at overpressures of 2160 PSF or 194 dB SPL<sup>2</sup>.

## HEARING DAMAGE RISK ASSESSMENT

The AFR 161-35<sup>3</sup> is used for the assessment of Hazardous Noise Exposure of Air Force personnel exposed to continuous noise environs and impulse noise such as gun fire and similiar phenomena. For impulse noise it requires that the waveform of the impulse be analyzed for the peak overpressure and for two different durations, the pressure-wave (A) duration and the pressure-envelope (B) duration of the impulse signal. The limiting exposures for a 100 msec impulse without reflection ("A" duration) is 152 dB SPL and 140 dB SPL for impulses with reflected wave components ("B" duration). These values are valid for an exposure of 100 pulses/day over a period not less than 4 min per day. This criteria cannot be applied to the Live Fire Test. In a real world scenario a pilot would experience only one or two exposure during a day with a much higher peak overpressure level. For this reason the AFR 161-35 was not used for this study in the hearing risk assessment.

However, data obtained from a recent US Army study<sup>4</sup> can be compared with the Live Fire blast overpressure measurements. In that study human subjects were exposed to the noise from explosive charges and the temporary hearing loss was measured. The subjects wore muff type hearing protection and were exposed to a series of 50 blasts on the same day with a peak level of 193 dB sound pressure level (SPL). For these subjects a temporary change in hearing of less than 15 dB was observed which is a mild temporary hearing loss and should not result in any loss of auditory function.

The Live Fire Tests were conducted under similiar conditions. However the numbers of exposures as reported in the US Army study far exceed the single exposures analyzed for the Joint Live Fire Tests. The highest level measured was 193 dB (Test Nr. 26) and the crew member (manikin) was wearing the standard Air Force flight helmet type HGU 55/P which provides hearing protection in the frequency range from 125 Hz to 8 kHz and to some degree in the lower frequencies. In these tests only one projectile was fired per day which represents a real live scenario during a air-to-air combat engagement. Comparing the measured levels recorded during the live fire test with the finding of the US Army study<sup>4</sup>, the impact on the hearing and communication of the pilot or crew member during the Live Fire Test can be estimated. From these Live Fire exposures crew members could experience a mild reduction in hearing but these hearing changes would not be sufficient to impair communication capability.

## CONCLUSION

The maximum blast overpressure (193 dB) measured during this test was higher than an individual would normally experience. Comparing the findings of the US Army study<sup>4</sup> with the data of the Live Fire Test, only mild temporary hearing losses can be expected by the F-15 pilots and crewmembers and it should not affect their ability to communicate with ground stations and/or other aircraft.

Little information in the literature is available on the response of humans to impulse or blast overpressure levels of this magnitude, except for subjective reports from voluntary subjects exposed to higher than normal overpressure levels. These observations and some predictions have been tabulated in Table 4 AUDITORY RESPONSE TO BLAST OVERPRESSURE<sup>2</sup>.

**F-15A LIVE FIRE TEST  
TEST MATRIX**

TEST NR.	IMPACT AREA	THREAT	AZ/EL	VELOCITY
5	Left Side Fuselage	12.7mm API	90/0 deg	1500 ft/s
6	Left Side Fuselage	12.7mm API	90/30 deg	1500 ft/s
8	Left Side Rear	12.7mm API	120/30 deg	1500 ft/s
9	Right Side Rear Avionic Bay	23 mm HEI/MG-25	225/45 deg	2200 ft/s
10	Left Center Fuselage	110 gr fragm.	60/60 deg	5000 ft/s
11	Left Center Fuselage	12.7 mm API	60/60 deg	1500 ft/s
12	Left Rear Fuselage	12.7mm API	150/45 deg	1500 ft/s
14	Right Front Fuselage	23 mm API	345/45 deg	2200 ft/s
15	Ctr Front Fuselage	23 mm API	0/15 deg	2200 ft/s
16	Right Front Fuselage	23 mm HEI/MG-25	315/45 deg	2200 ft/s
17	Left Front Fuselage	30 mm HEI/A-30	15/45 deg	2000 ft/s
18	Left Ctr Fuselage	110 gr fragm.	60/30 deg	5000 ft/s
19	Canopy from Rear	110 gr fragm.	150/30 deg	5000 ft/s
20	Canopy from Rear	12.7 mm API	150/30 deg	1500 ft/s
22	Left through Canopy	23 mm HEI/MG-25	45/0 deg	2200 ft/s

**F-15A LIVE FIRE TEST  
TEST MATRIX**

TEST NR.	IMPACT AREA	THREAT	AZ/EL	VELOCITY
23	Right Side Fuselage	23 mm HEI/MG-25	270/0 deg	2200 ft/s
24	Right Side Fuselage	12.7 mm API	270/0 deg	1600 ft/s
25	Left Side Fuselage	30 mm HEI/A-30	135/0 deg	2000 ft/s
26	Bottom Landing Gear	23mm HEI/MG-25	180/60 deg	2200 ft/s
27		unknown		

Table 1

**F-15A LIVE FIRE TEST**  
**COCKPIT MAX OVERPRESSURE (PSF) - MAX SPL (dB)**

TEST NR.	RIGHT EAR		LEFT EAR		UPPER TORSO		LOWER TORSO	
	PSF	SPL	PSF	SPL	PSF	SPL	PSF	SPL
5	83	166	65	164	-	-	53	162
6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
9	396	179	212	174	148	171	128	170
10	-	-	21	154	25	155	-	-
11	-	-	43	160	50	161	67	164
12	-	-	10	148	-	-	7	145
14	-	-	-	-	-	-	45	161
15	-	-	-	-	77	165	70	164
16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
17	115	169	100	168	-	-	123	169
18	-	-	-	-	77	165	77	165
19	89	167	91	167	73	165	37	159
20	368	179	295	177	117	169	130	177
22	872	186	-	-	-	-	1285	190
23	595	183	653	184	744	185	700	185
24	98	167	88	166	73	165	98	167
25	444	181	-	-	399	180	335	178

PSF in lbs/sqft

SPL in dB re .00002 N/sqm

**F-15A LIVE FIRE TEST**  
**COCKPIT MAX OVERPRESSURE (PSF) - MAX SPL (dB)**

TEST NR.	RIGHT EAR		LEFT EAR		UPPER TORSO		LOWER TORSO	
	PSF	SPL	PSF	SPL	PSF	SPL	PSF	SPL
26	1875	193	1866	193	1830	193	1481	191
27	1016	188	1062	188	1183	189	1050	188

PSF in lbs/sqft

SPL in dB re .00002 N/sqm

TABLE 2

**F-15A LIVE FIRE TEST  
COMPARISON OF MAX OVERPRESSURE**

TEST NR.		RIGHT EAR		LEFT EAR		UPPER TORSO		LOWER TORSO	
		PSF	SPL	PSF	SPL	PSF	SPL	PSF	SPL
5	B	83	166	65	164	-	-	53	162
	K	174	172	114	169	133	170	108	168
9	B	396	179	212	174	148	171	128	170
	K	146	171	258	176	141	171	174	172
16	B	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	K	259	176	262	176	229	175	259	176
17	B	115	169	100	168	-	-	123	169
	K	117	169	104	168	94	167	94	167
18	B	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	K	165	172	187	173	288	177	396	180
19	B	89	167	91	167	73	165	37	159
	K	115	169	139	170	84	166	50	161
20	B	368	179	295	177	117	169	130	170
	K	-	-	-	-	203	174	194	173

B - Bear Transducer  
K - Kistler Transducer

PSF in lbs/sqft  
SPL in dB re .00002 N/sqm

**F-15A LIVE FIRE TEST  
COMPARISON OF MAX OVERPRESSURE**

TEST NR.		RIGHT EAR		LEFT EAR		UPPER TORSO		LOWER TORSO	
		PSF	SPL	PSF	SPL	PSF	SPL	PSF	SPL
22	B	872	186	-	-	-	-	1285	190
	K	1267	189	-	-	-	-	626	184
23	B	595	183	653	184	744	185	700	185
	K	662	184	720	185	691	184	669	184
25	B	444	181	-	-	399	180	335	178
	K	720	185	864	186	360	179	353	179
26	B	1875	193	1866	193	1830	193	1491	191
	K	3168	198	1958	193	2232	195	2232	195
27	B	1016	188	1062	188	1183	189	1050	188
	K	-	-	1339	190	1440	191	1037	188

B - Bear Transducer  
K - Kistler Transducer

PSF in lbs/sqft  
SPL in dB re .00002 N/sqm

Table 3

# Auditory Response to Blast Overpressure

Nature of Auditory Response	Blast Overpressure Experience or Prediction
Rupture of the Tympanic Membrane	None Expected Below 720 PSF None Observed up to 144 PSF
Aural Pain	None Observed up to 144 PSF
Short Temporary Fullness, Tinnitus	Reported Above 95 PSF
Hearing Loss: Permanent	None Expected from Frequency and Intensity of Blast Overpressure Occurrence
Hearing Loss: Temporary	Mild Temporary Hearing Loss Measured at Exposure of 1875 PSF

TABLE 4

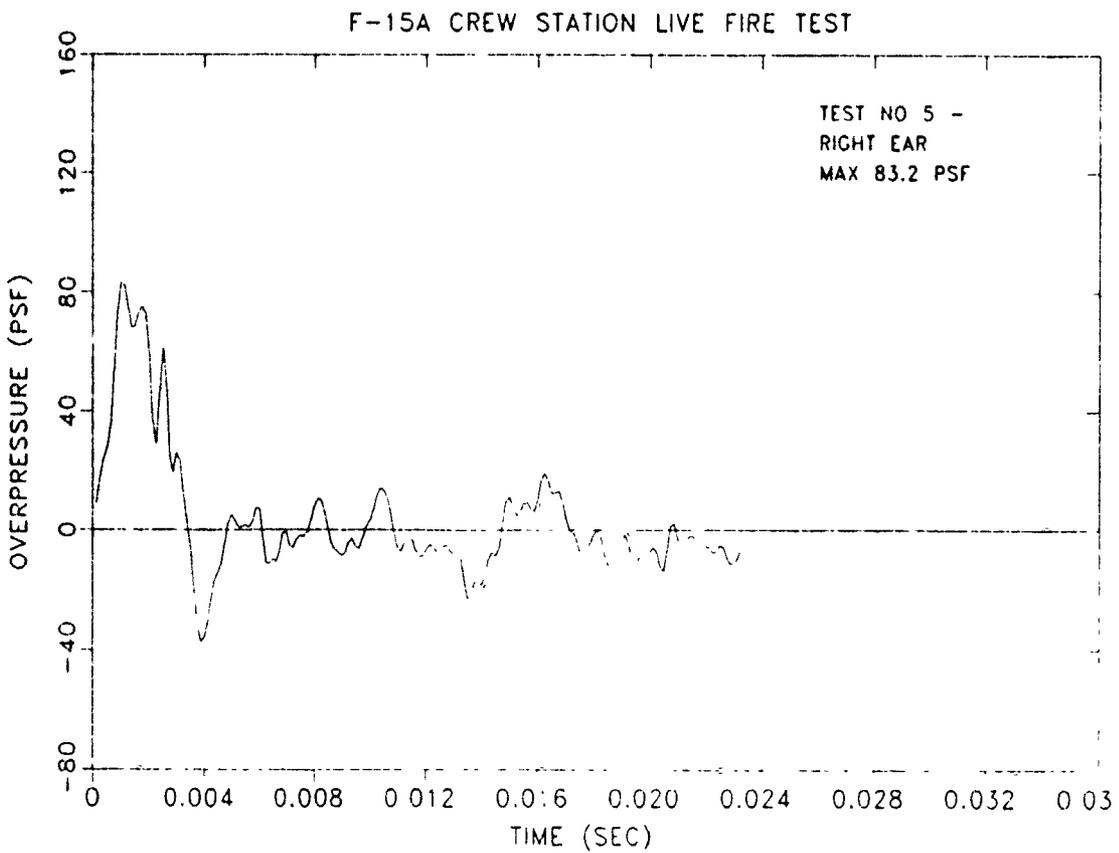
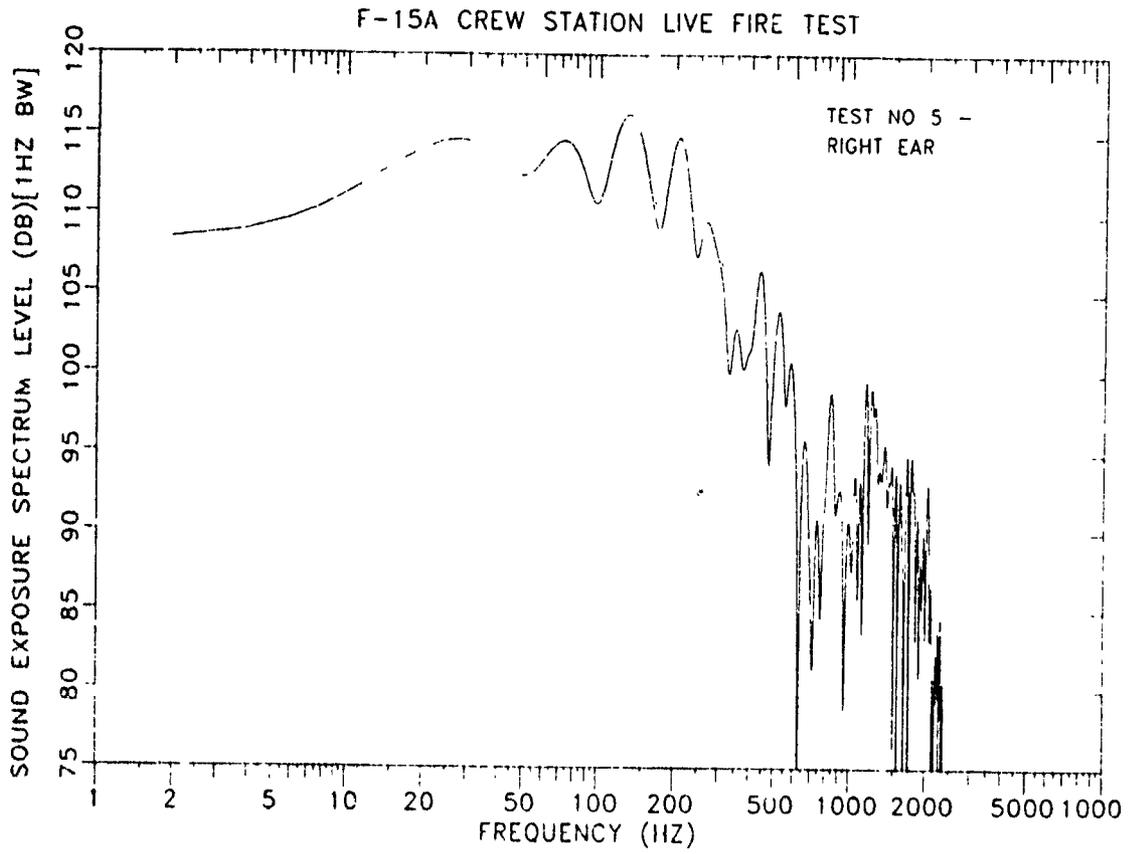
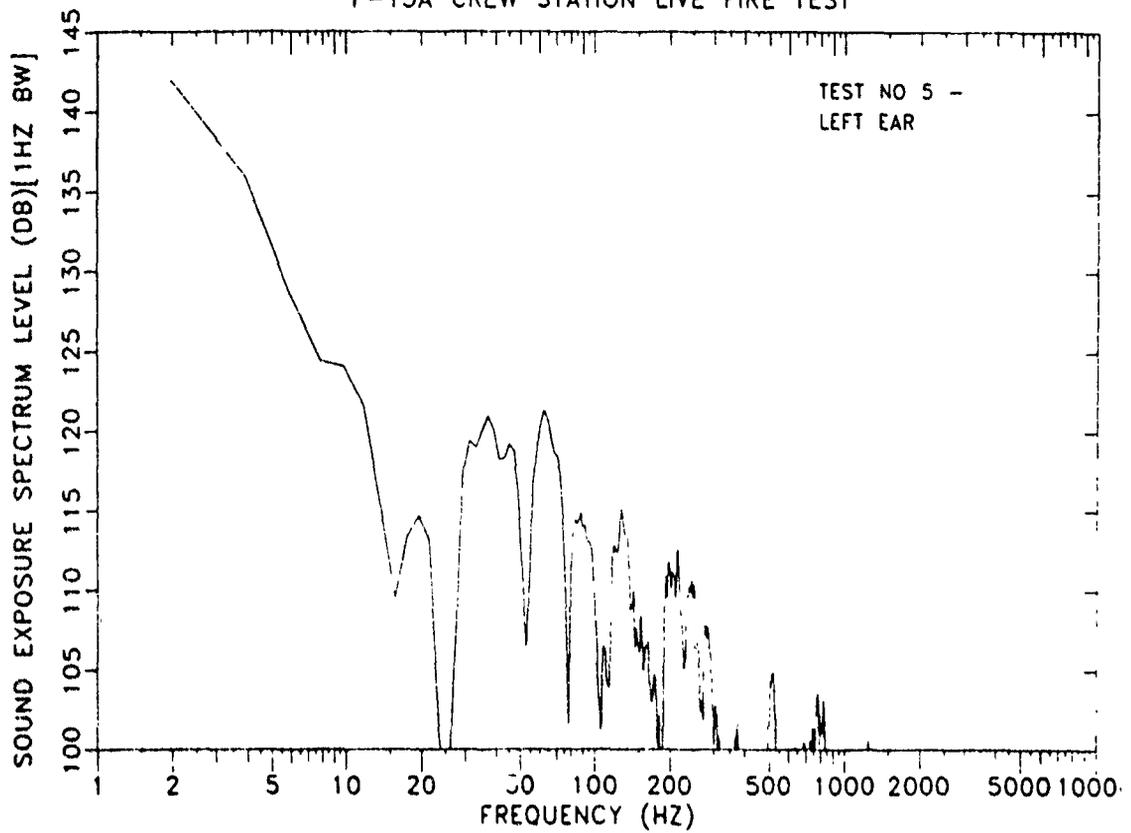


Figure 1

F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST

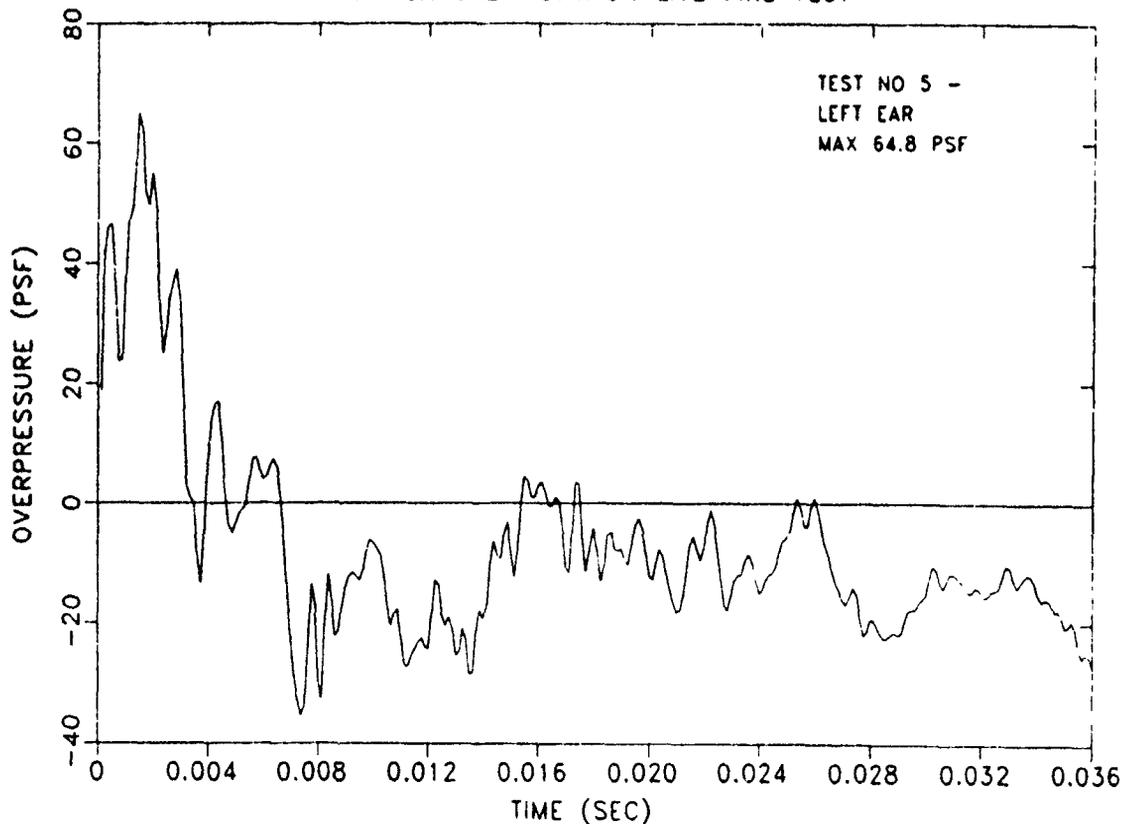
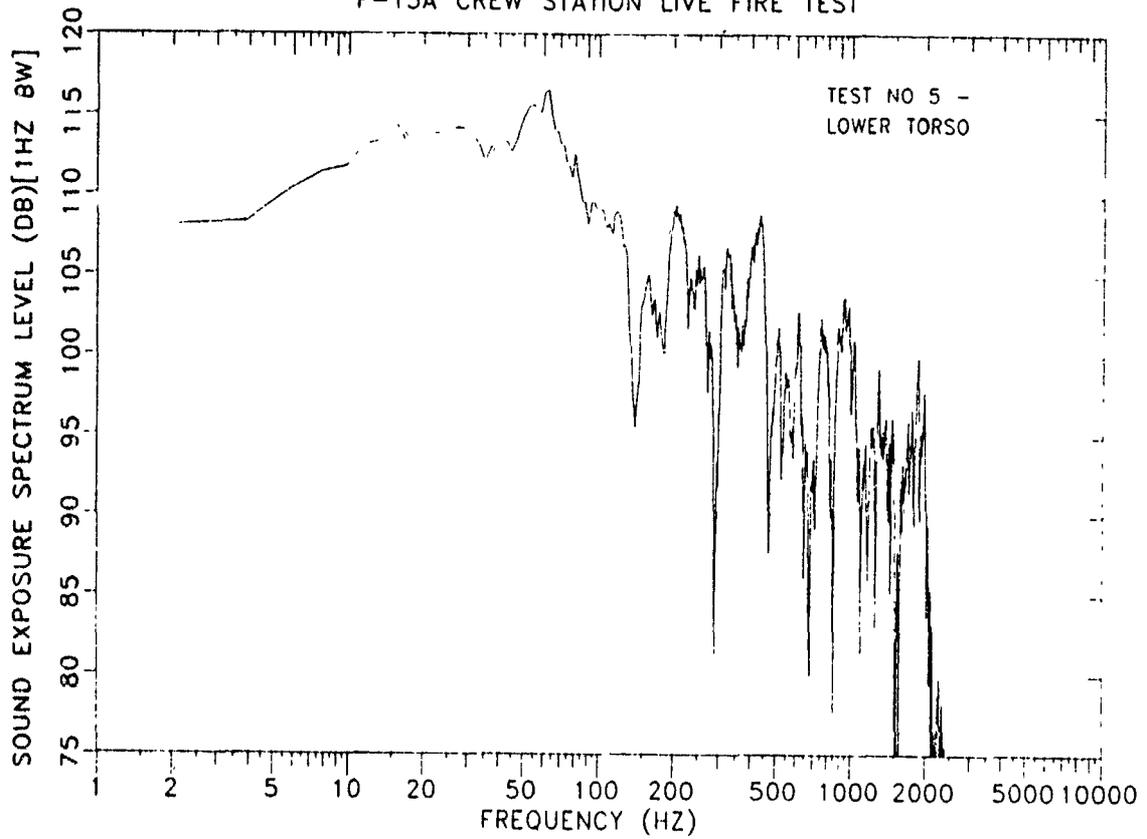


Figure 2

F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST

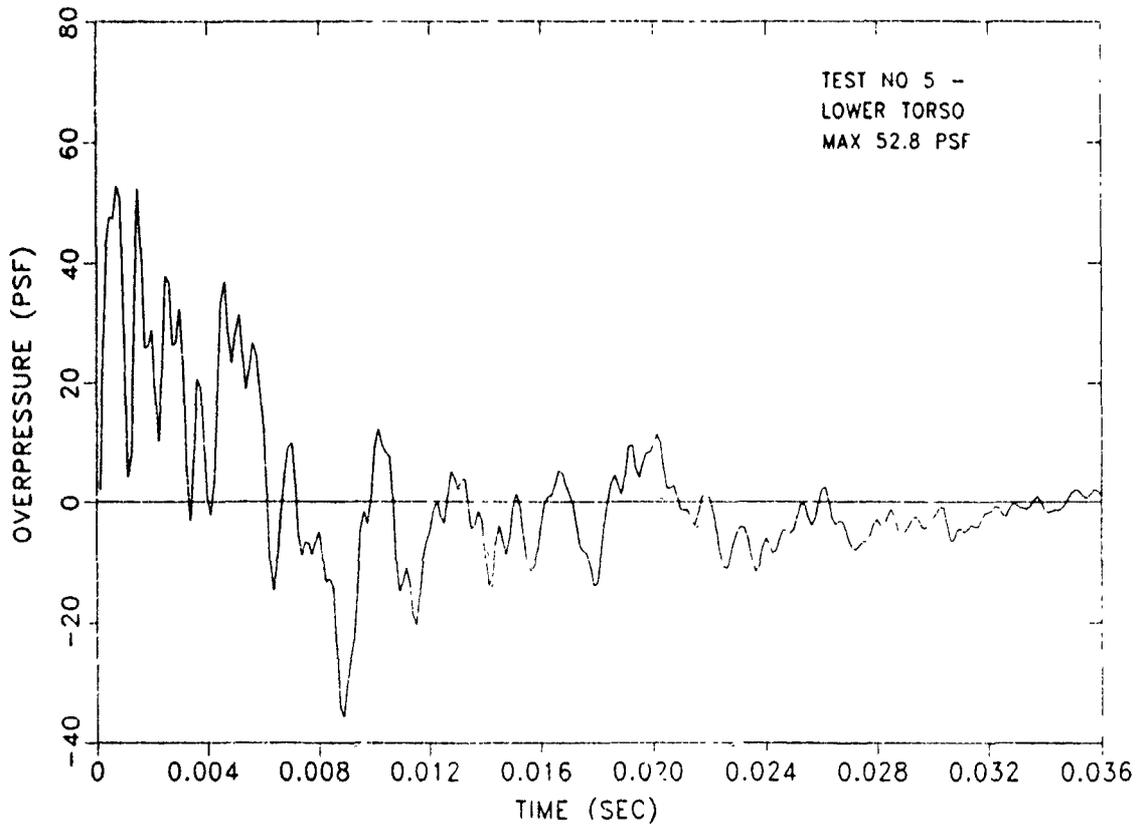
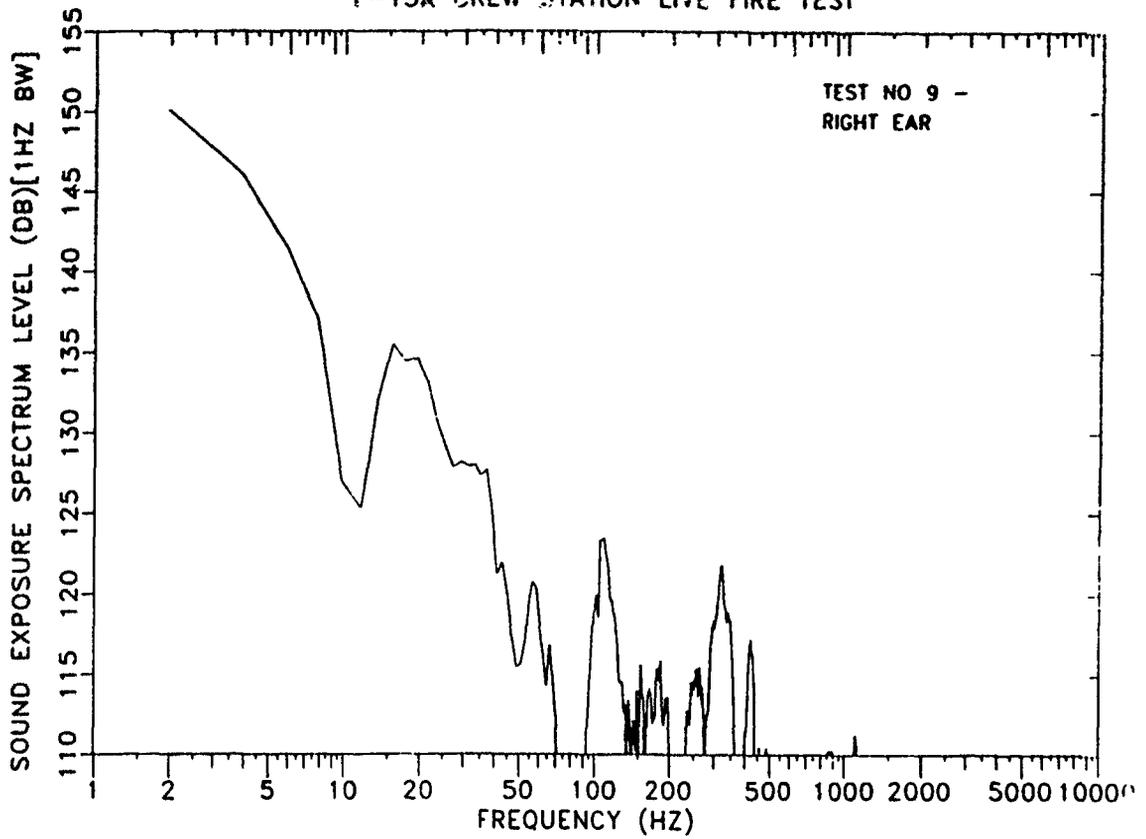


Figure 3

F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST

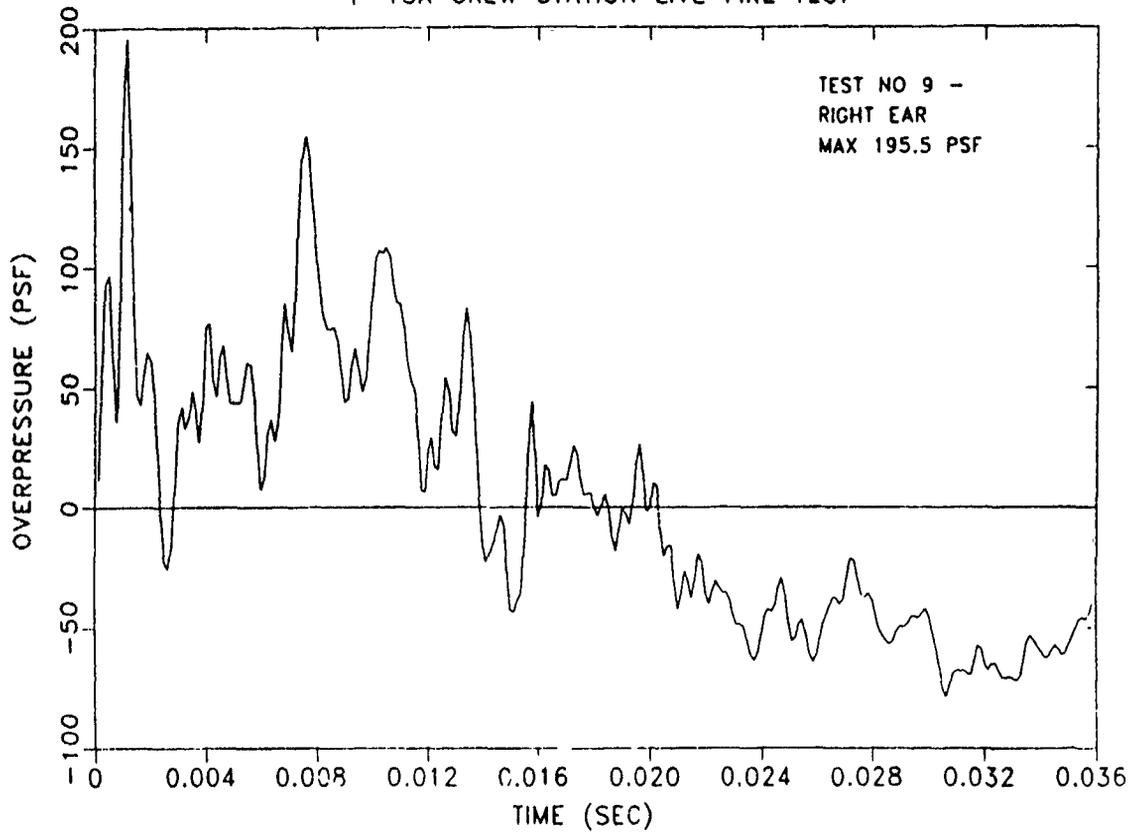
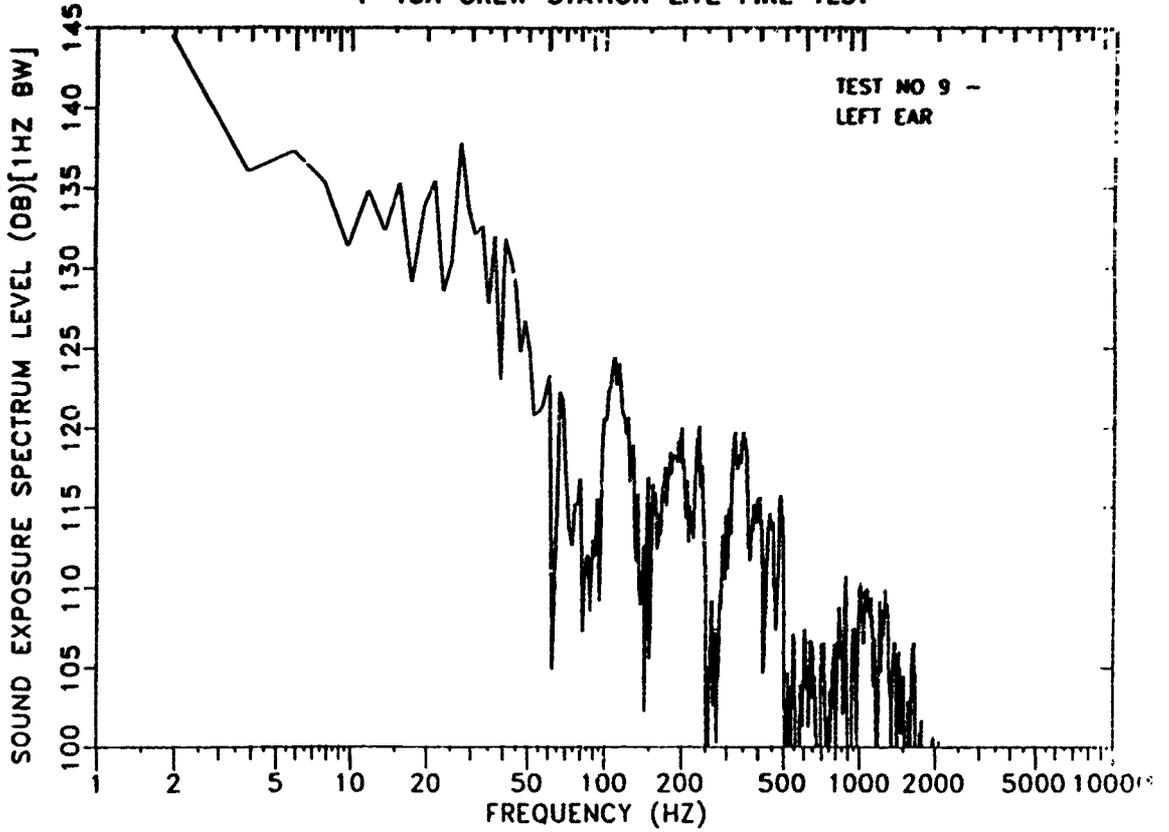


Figure 4

F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST

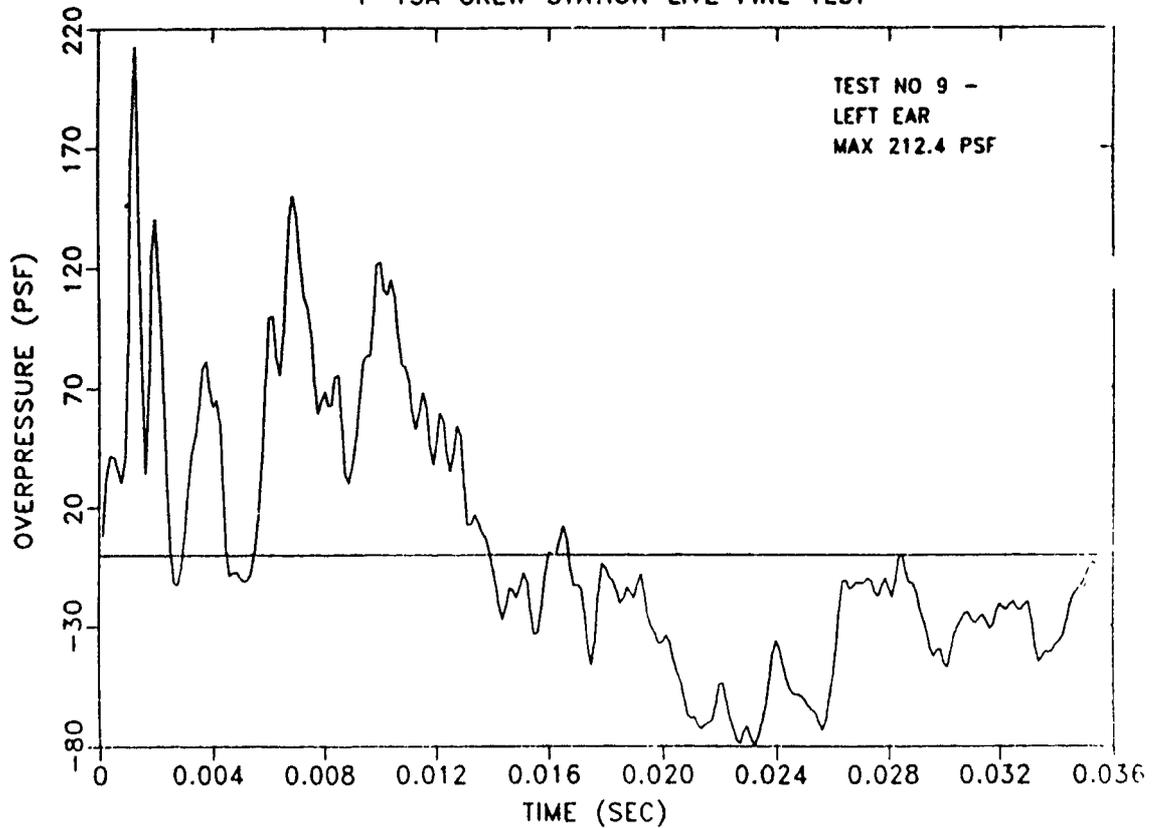
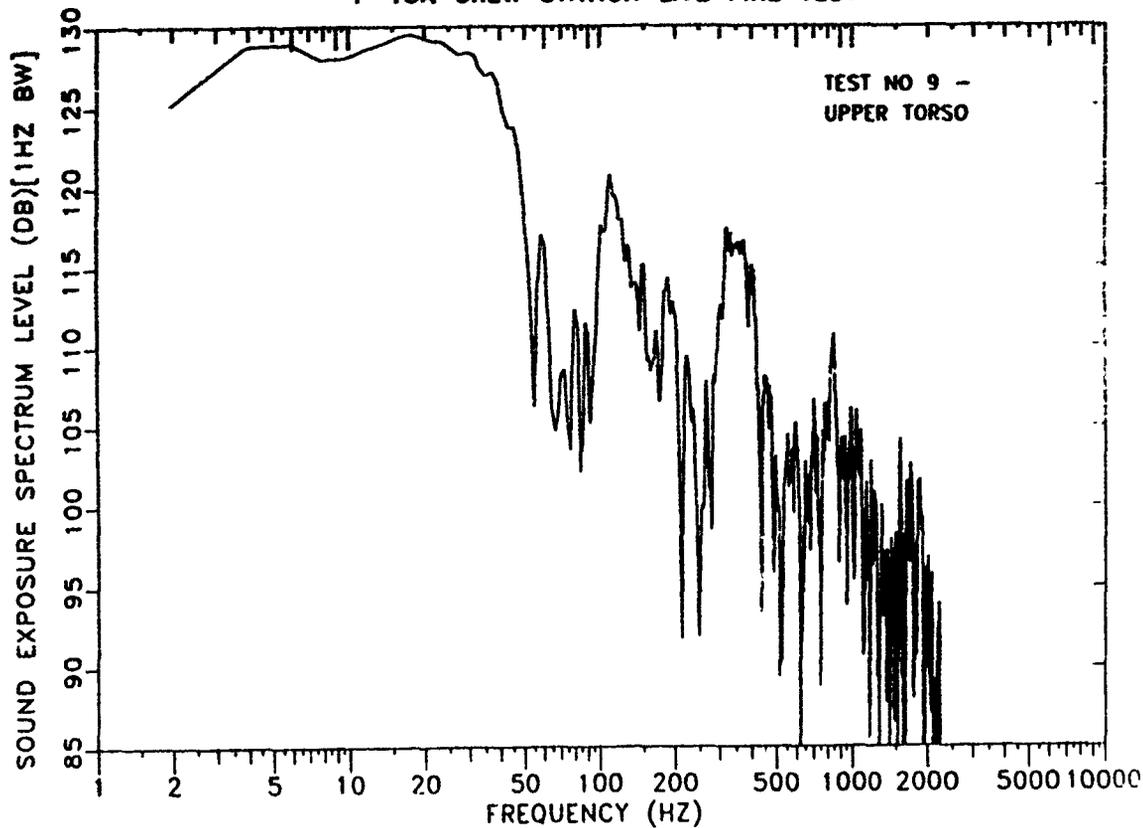
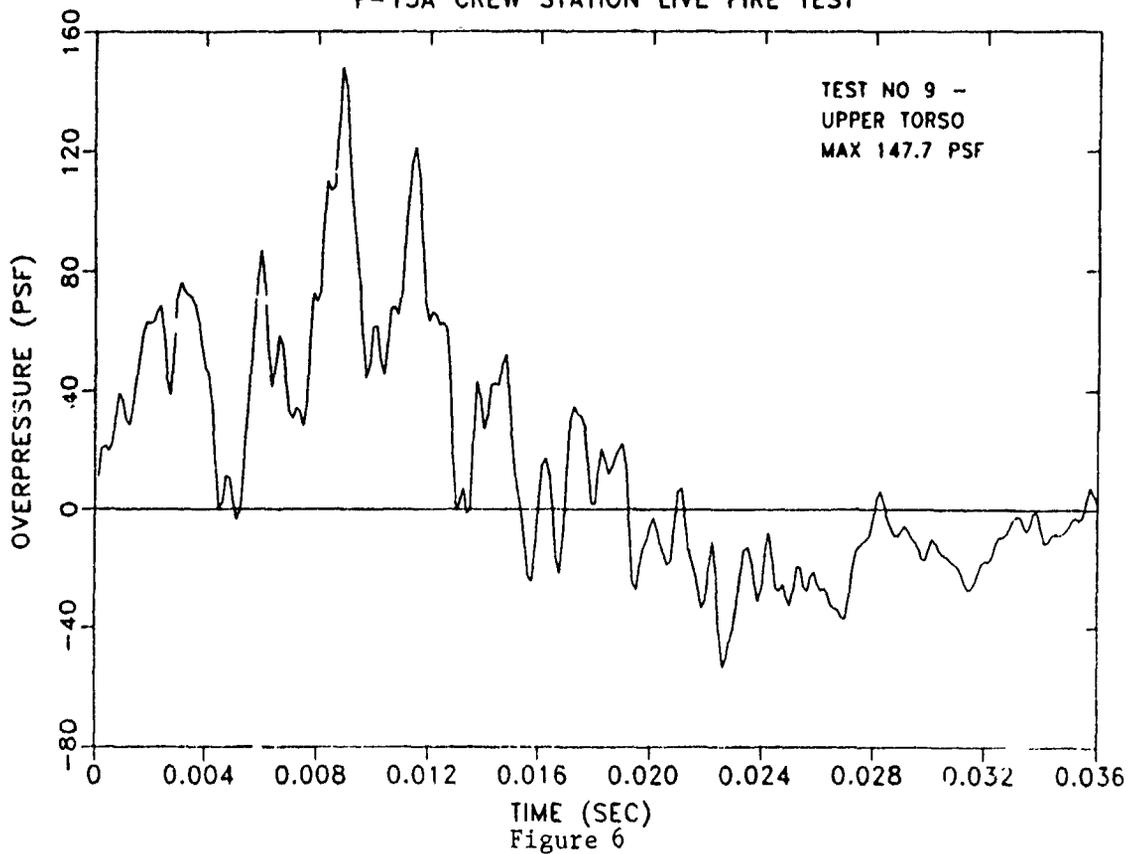


Figure 5

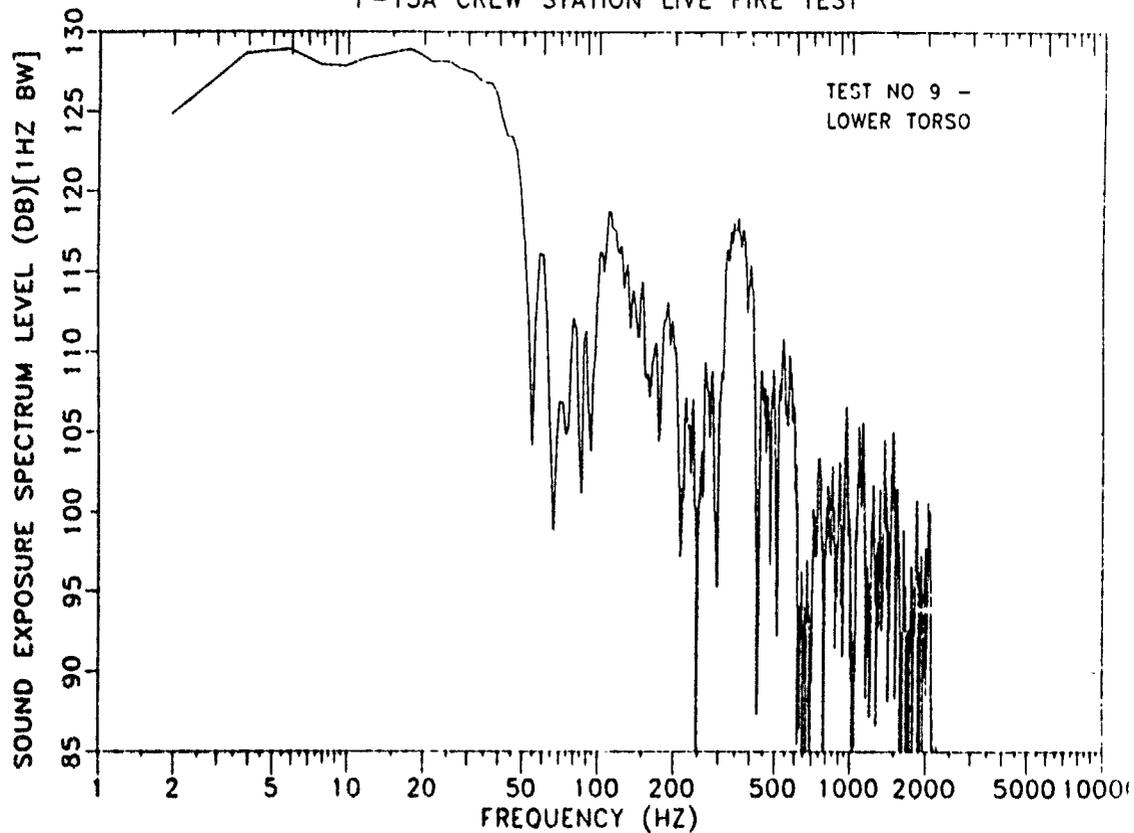
### F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



### F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST

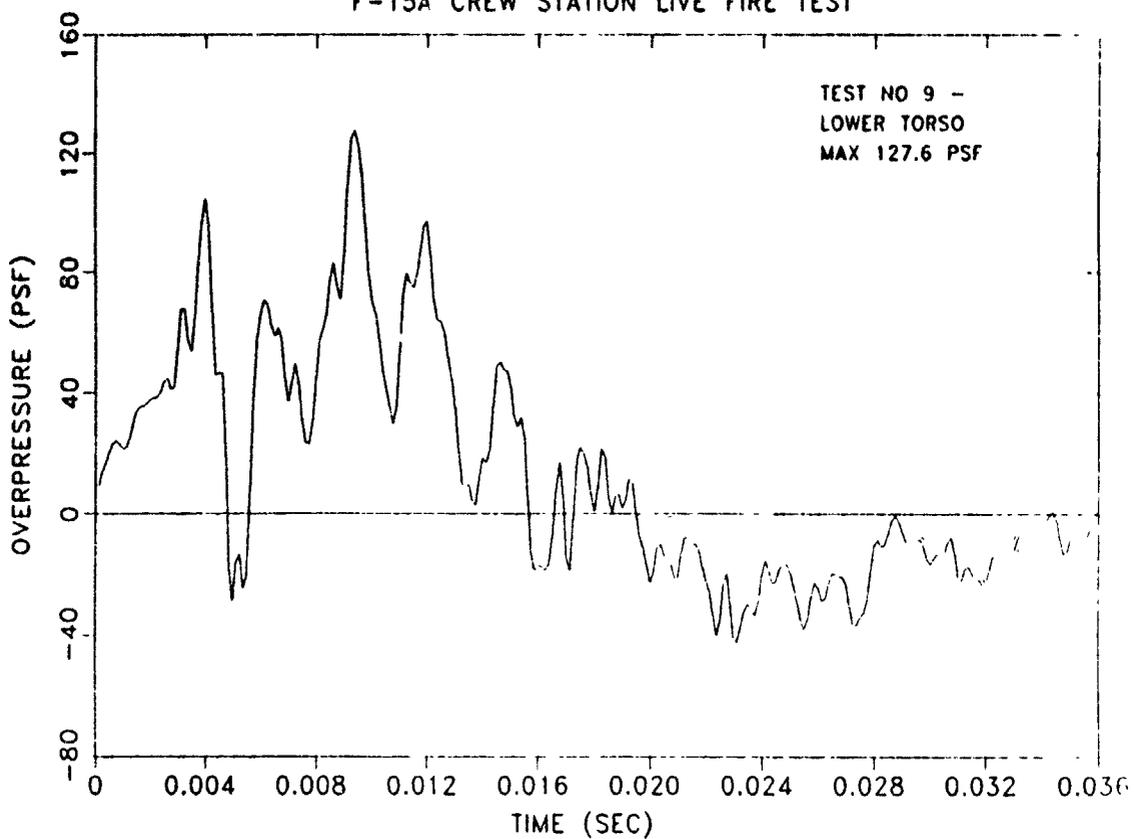
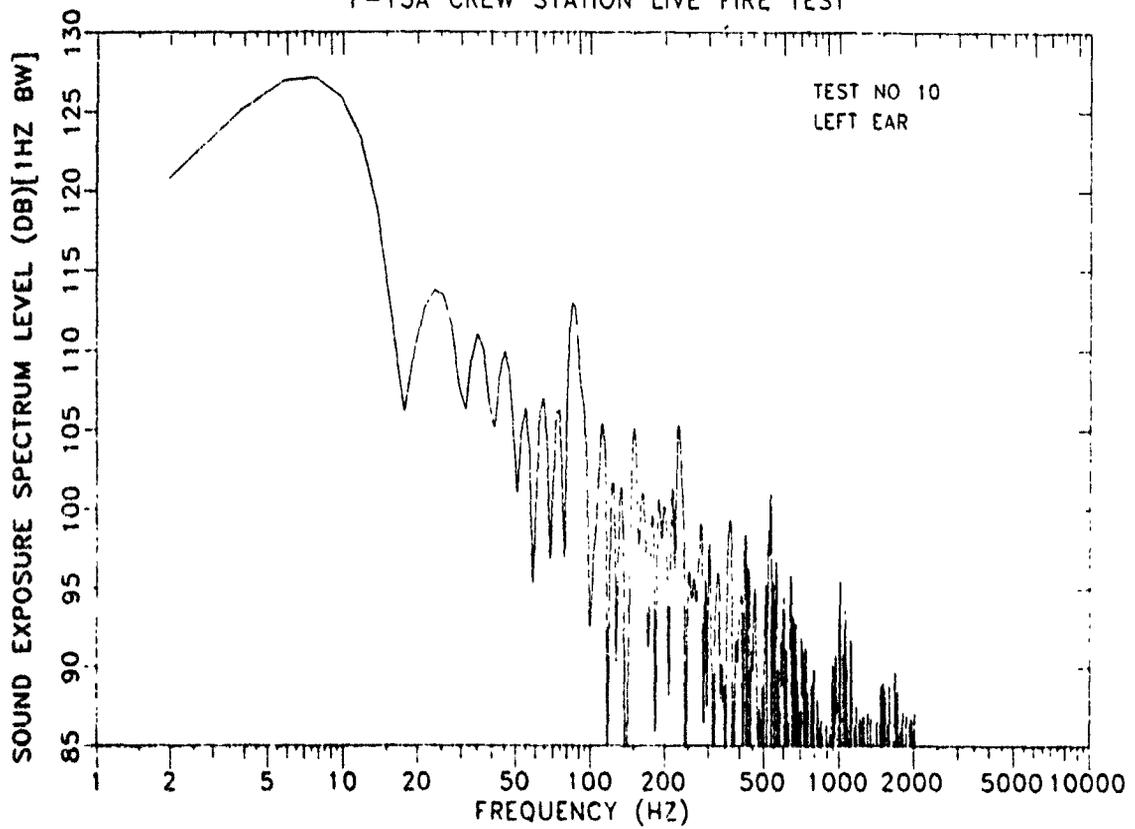


Figure 7

F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST

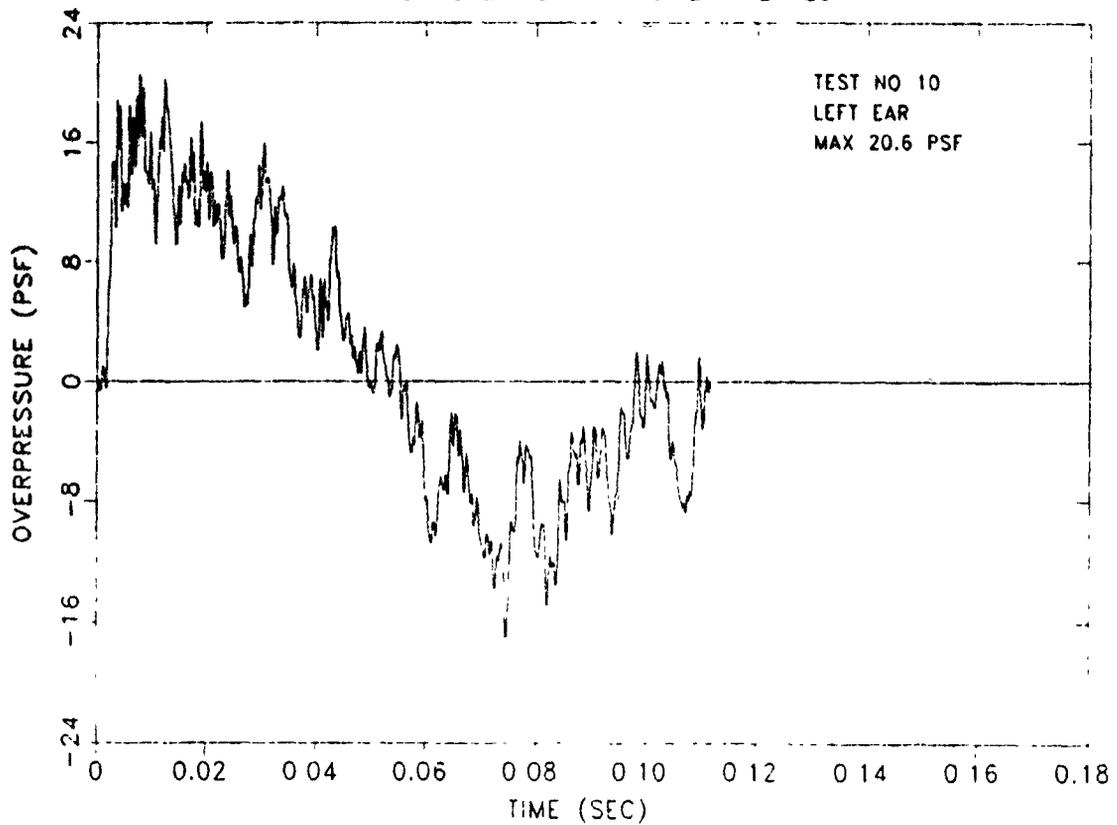
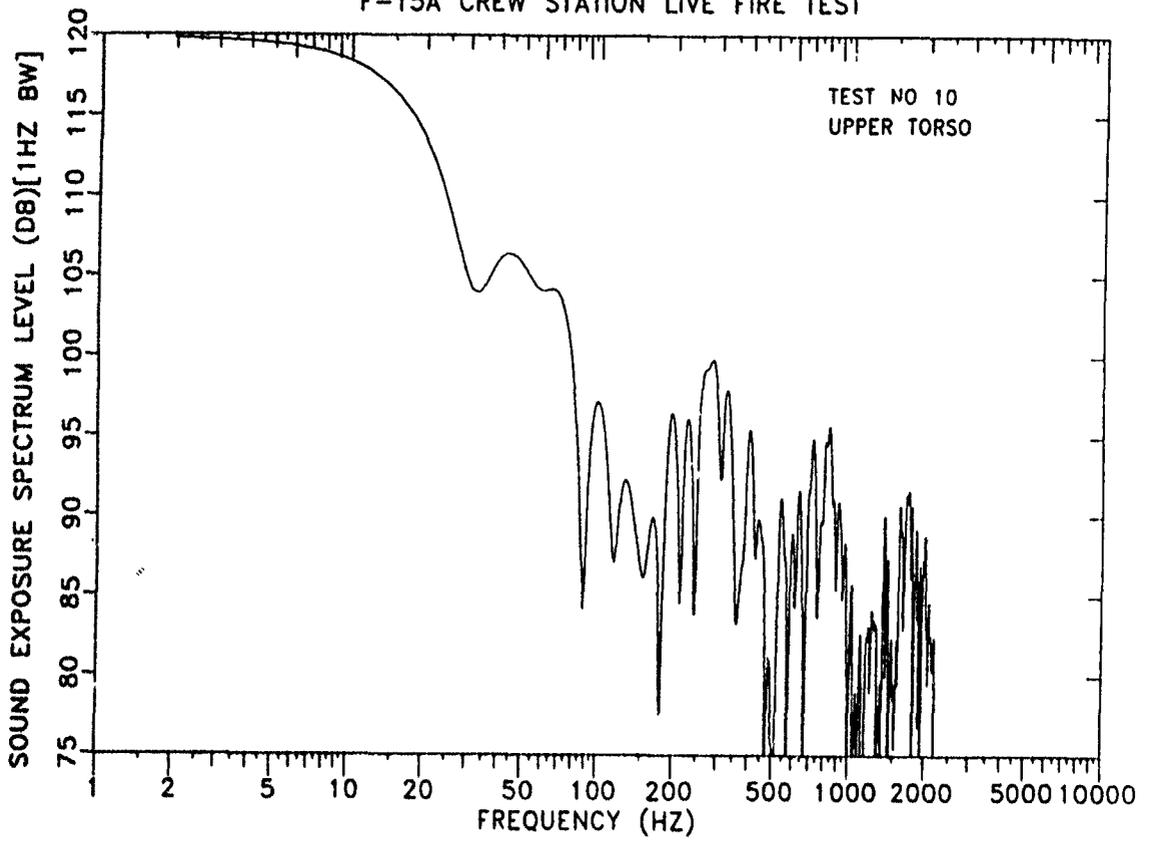


Figure 8

F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST

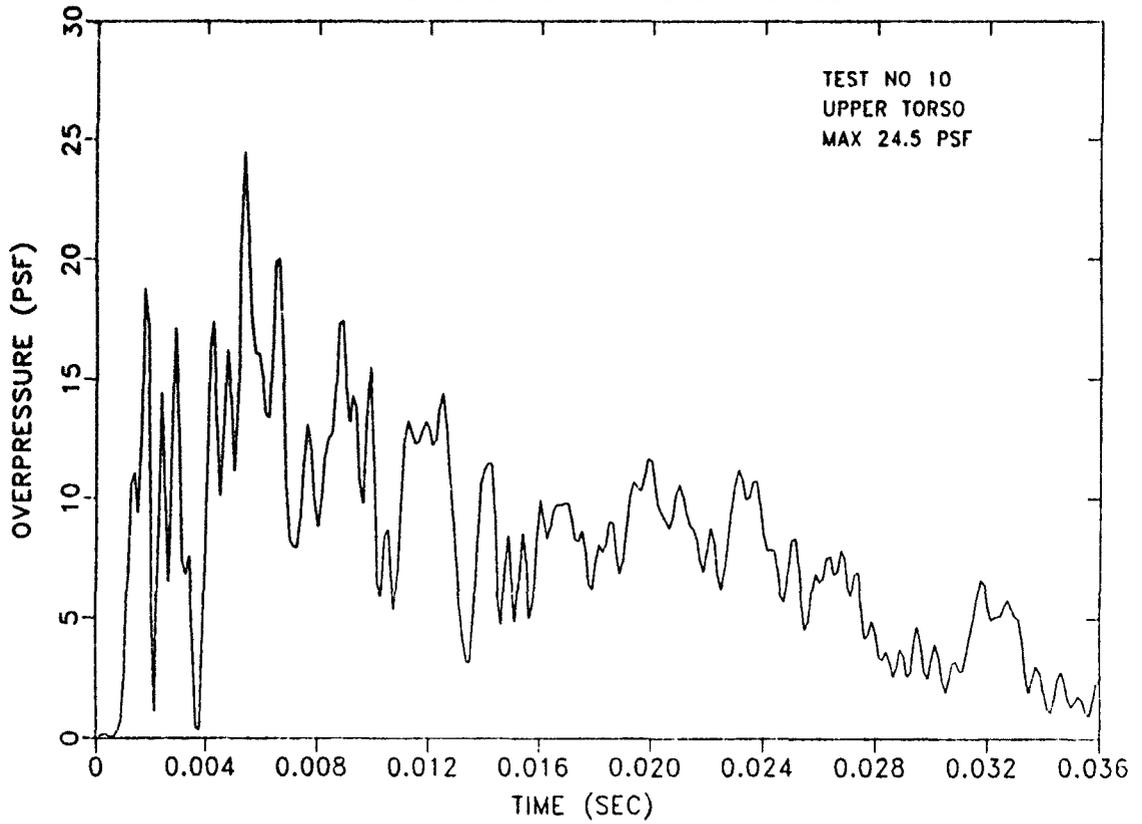
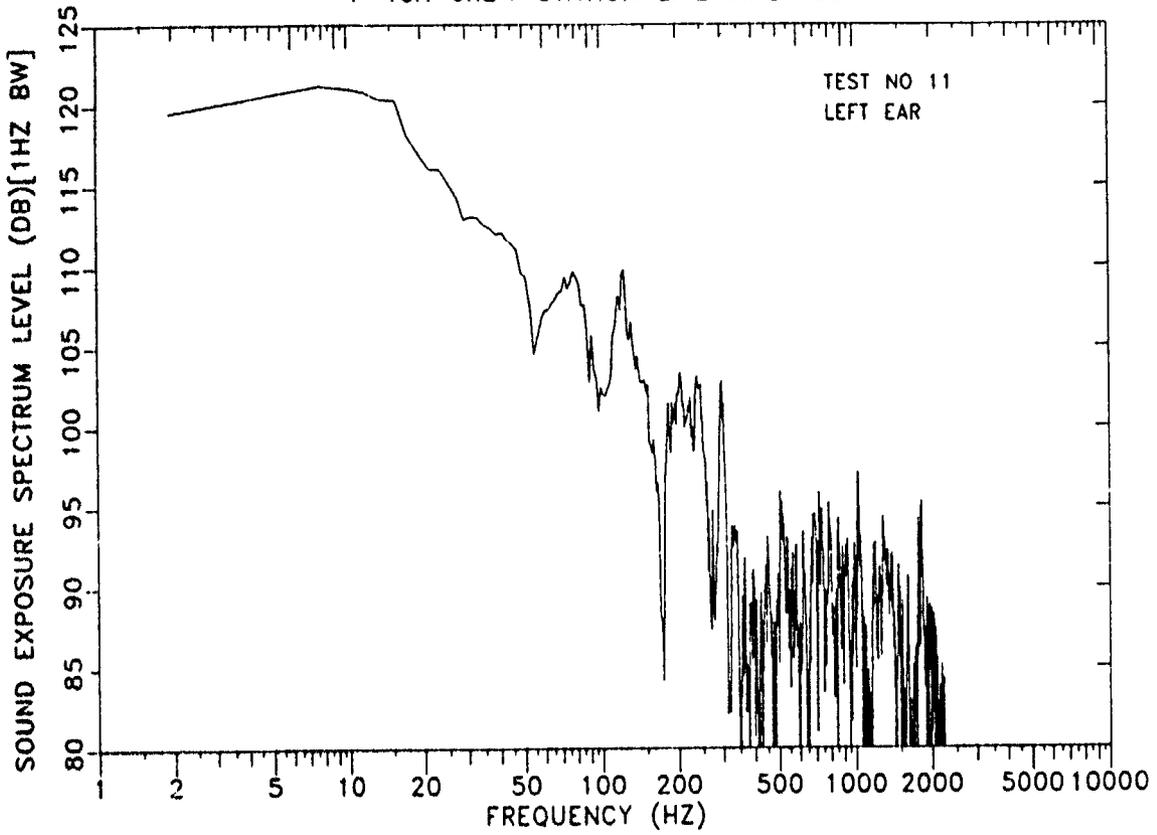


Figure 9

F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST

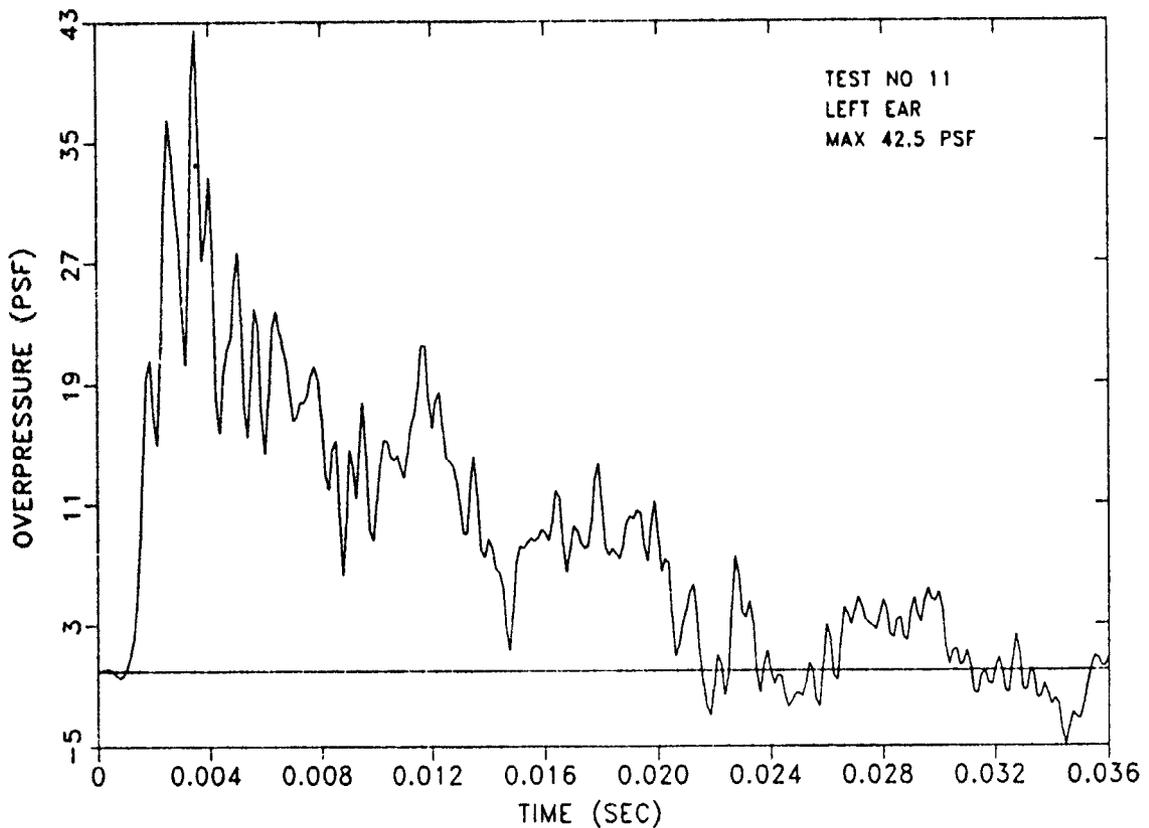
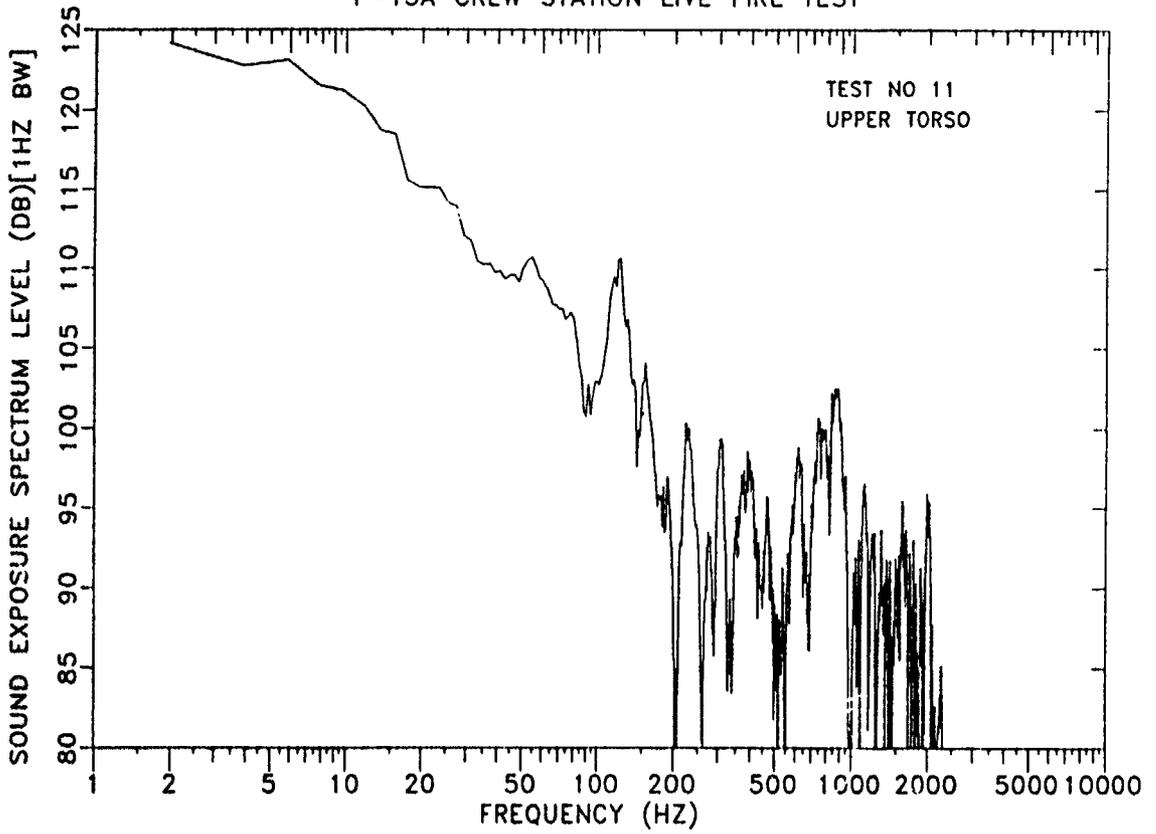


Figure 10

F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST

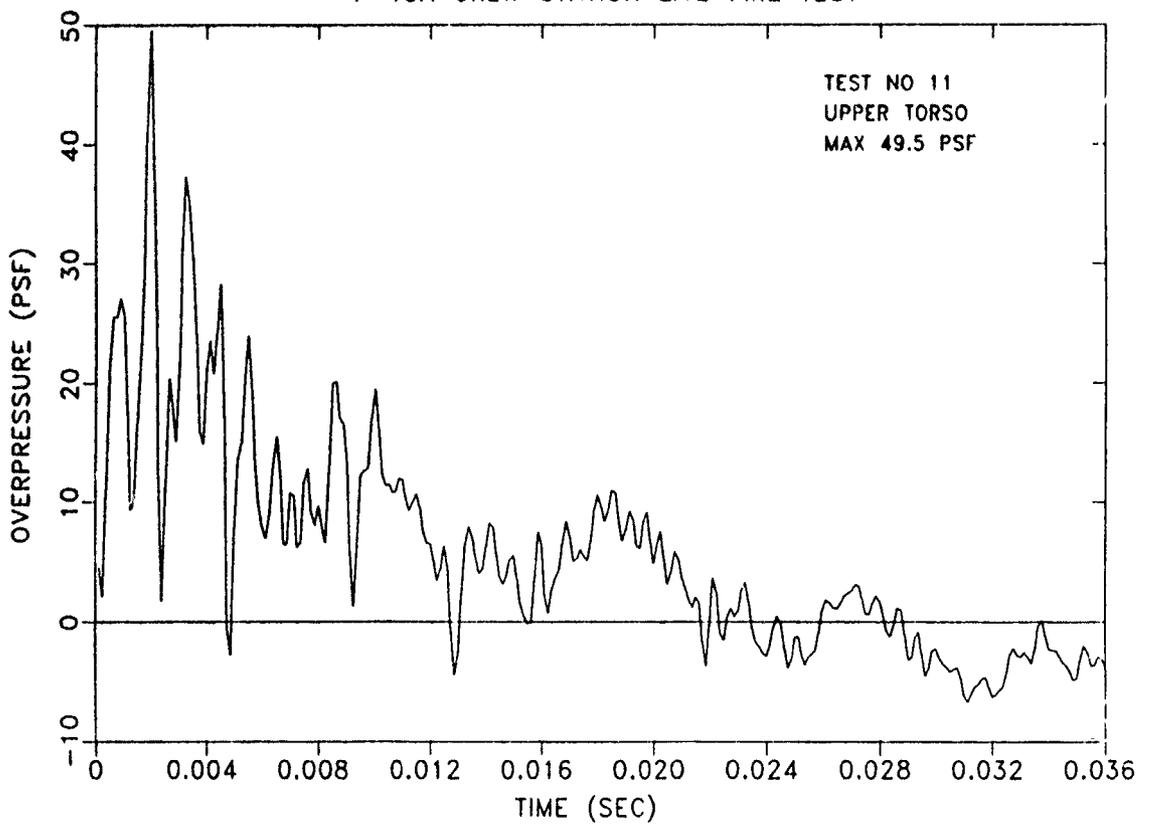
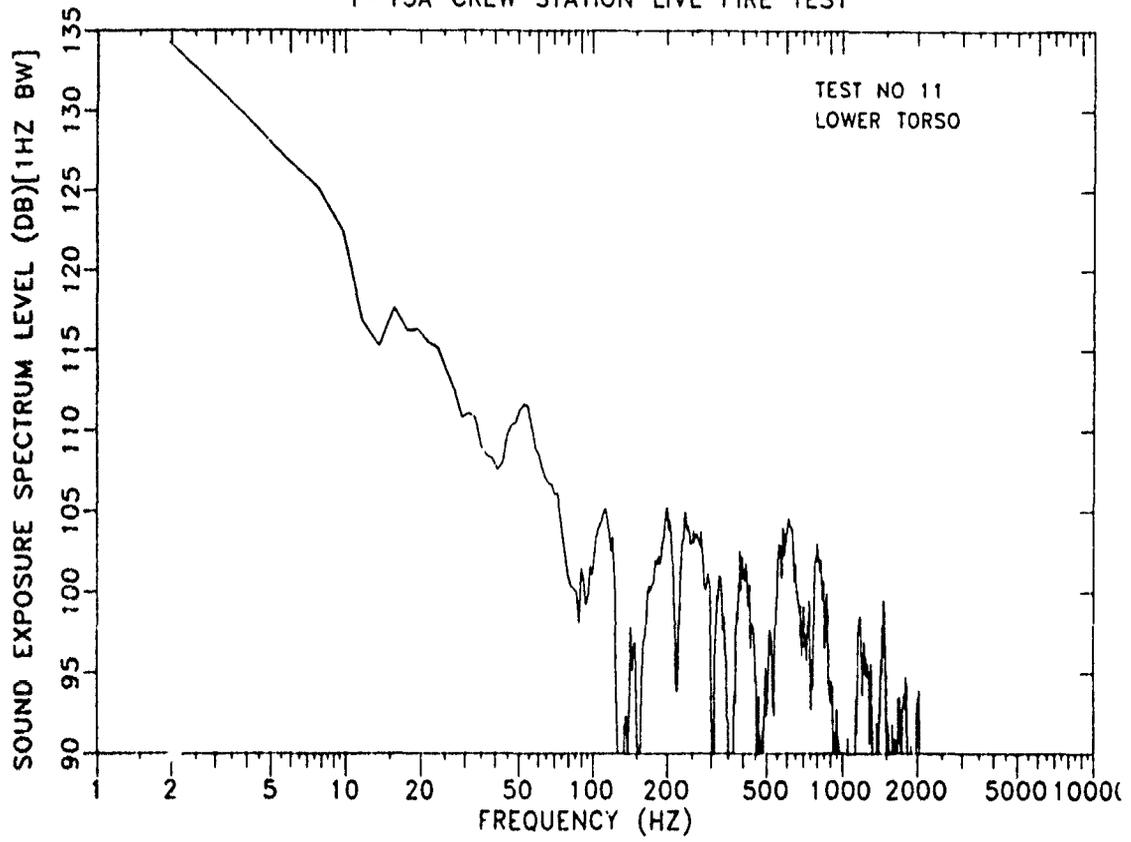


Figure 11

F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST

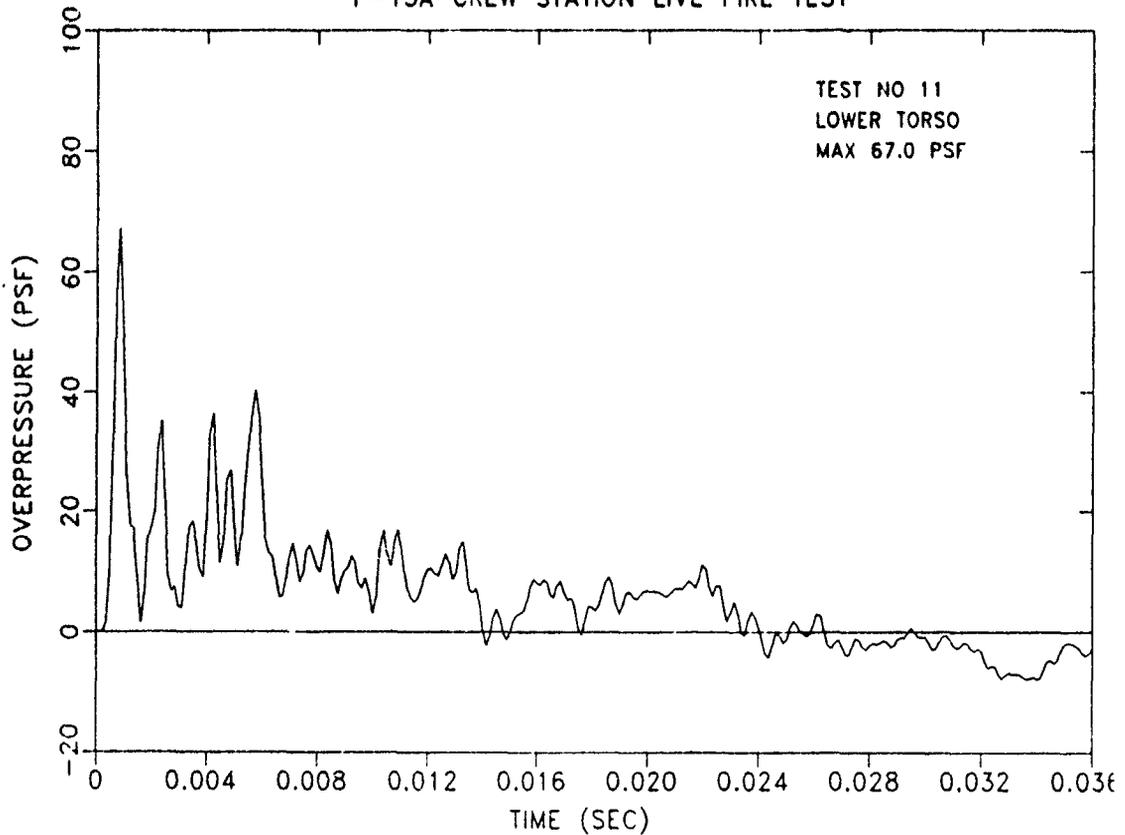
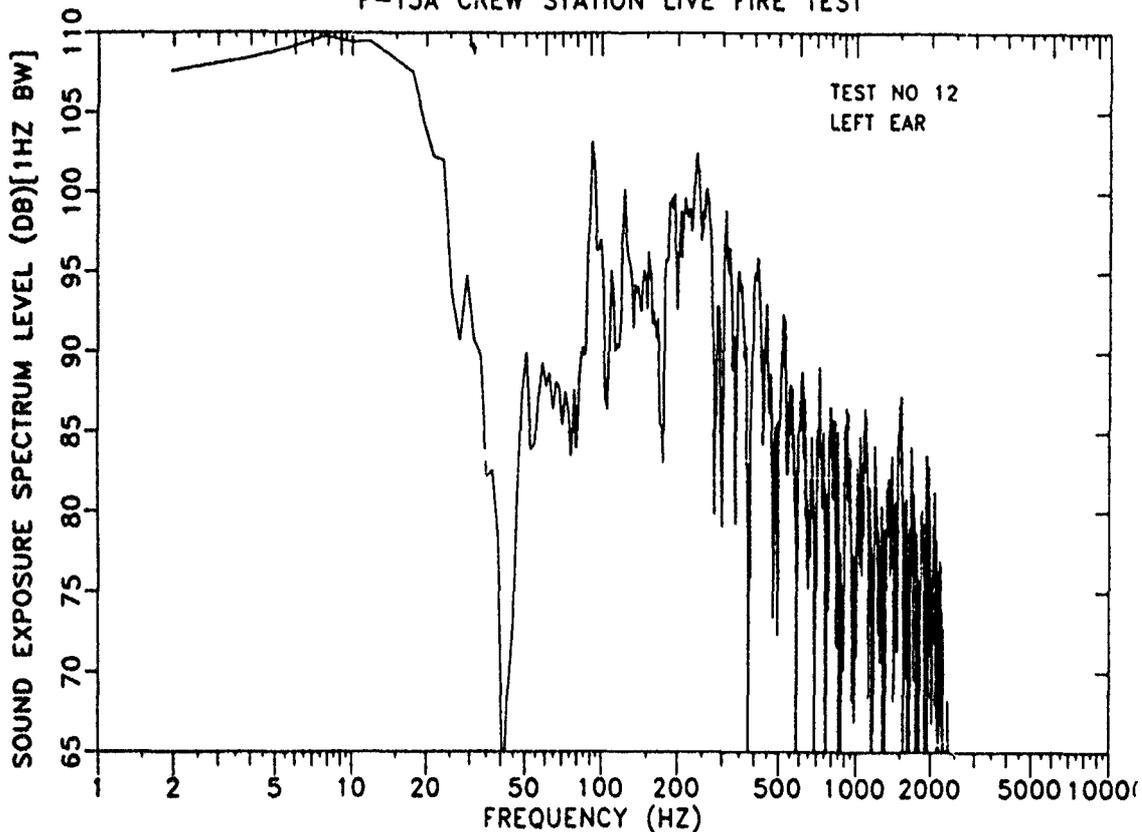
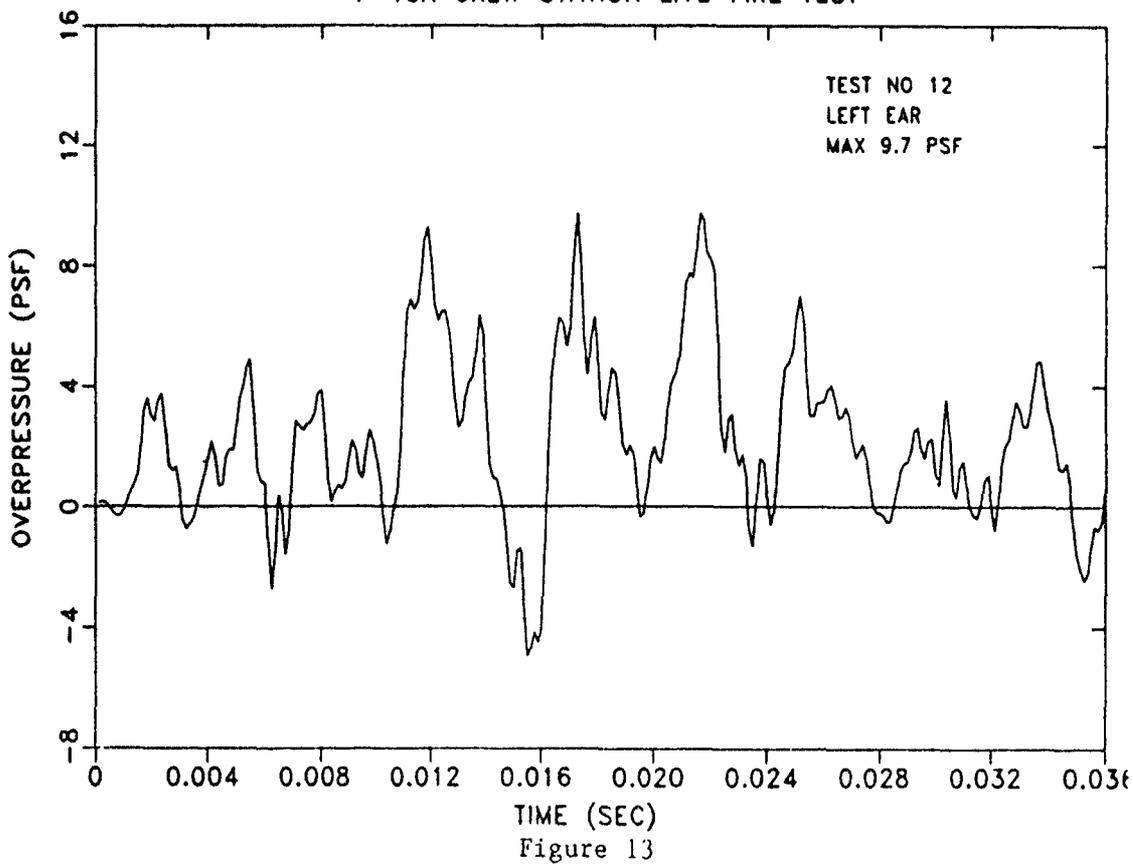


Figure 12

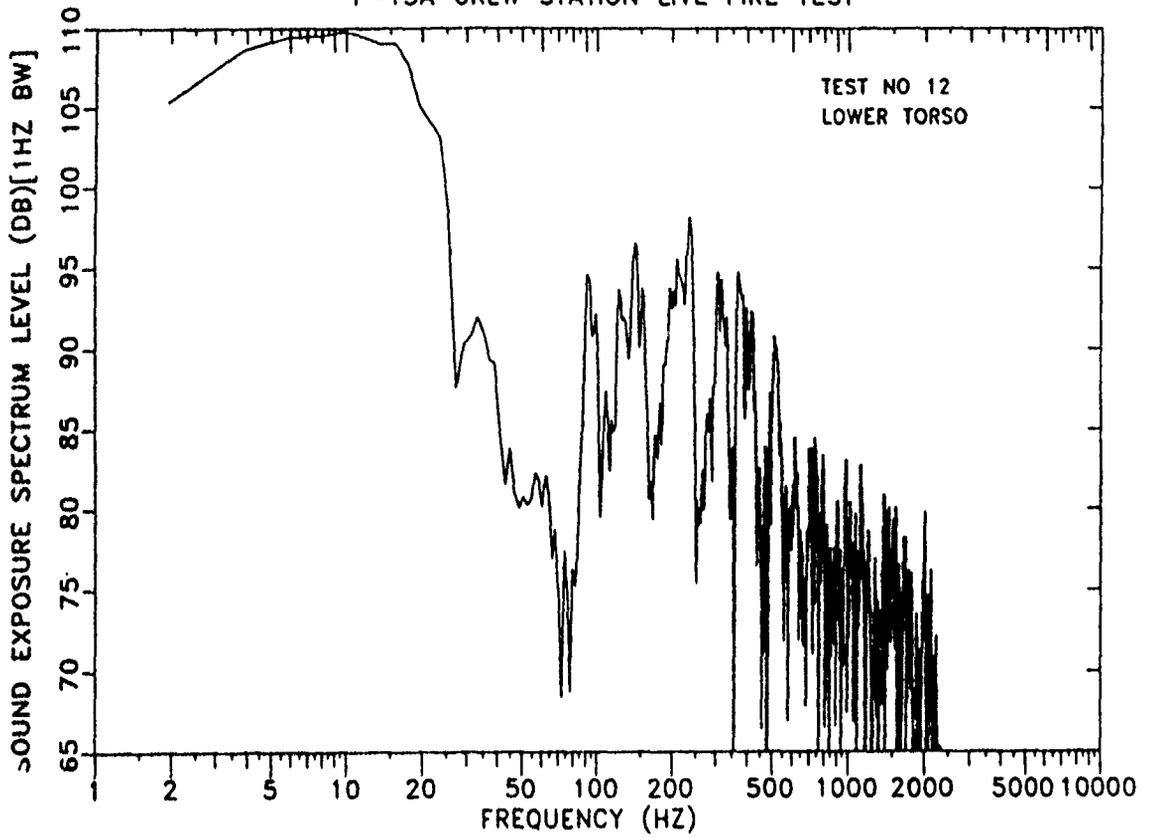
F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



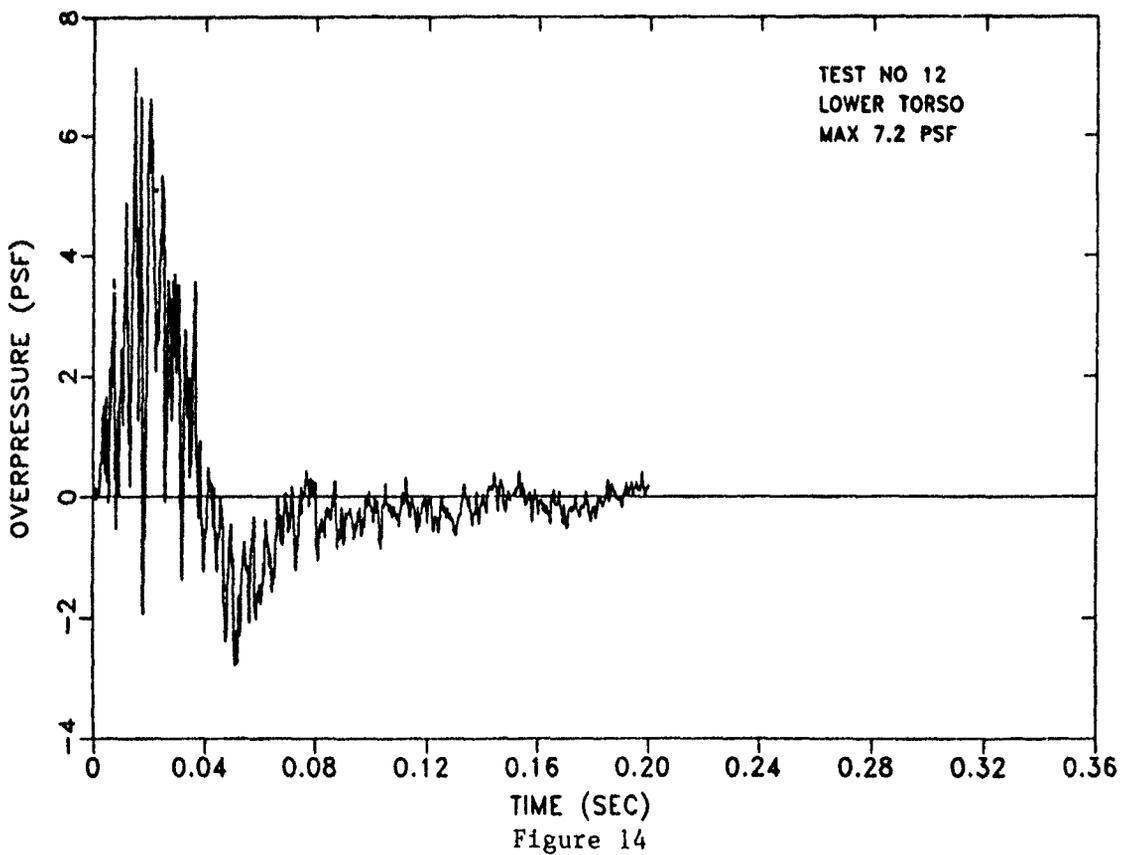
F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



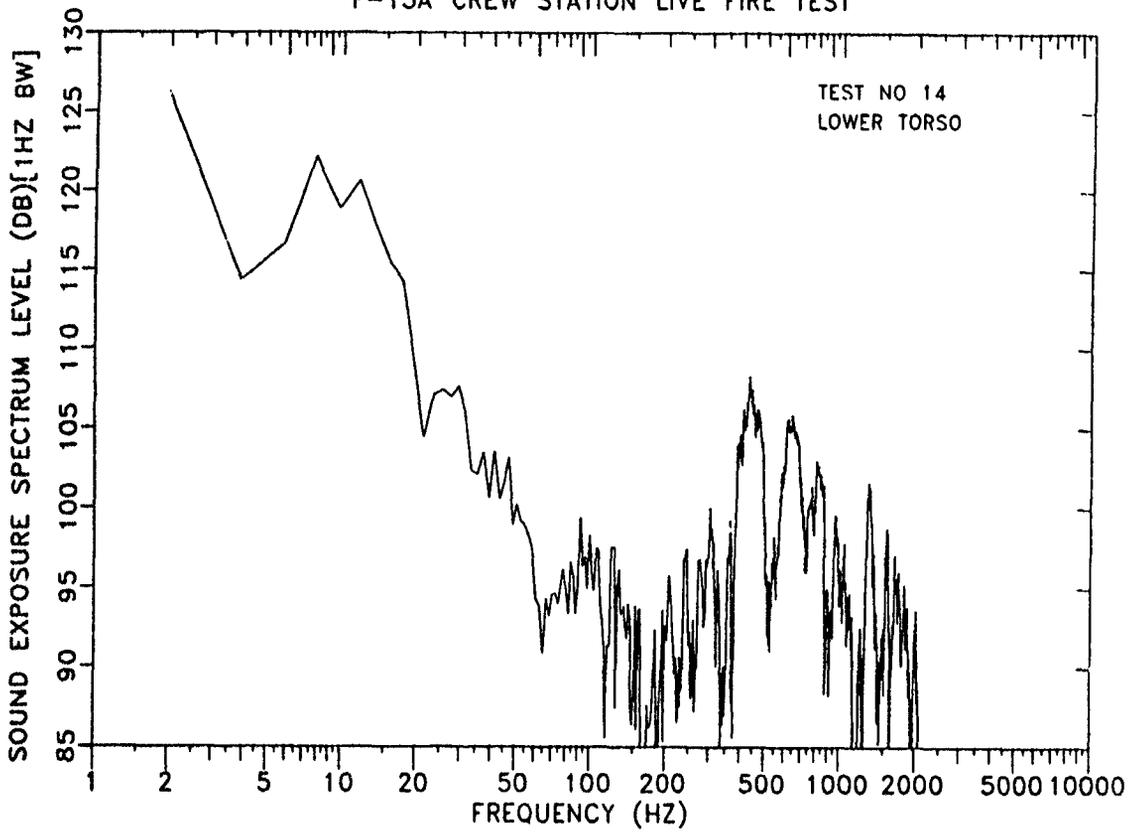
F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



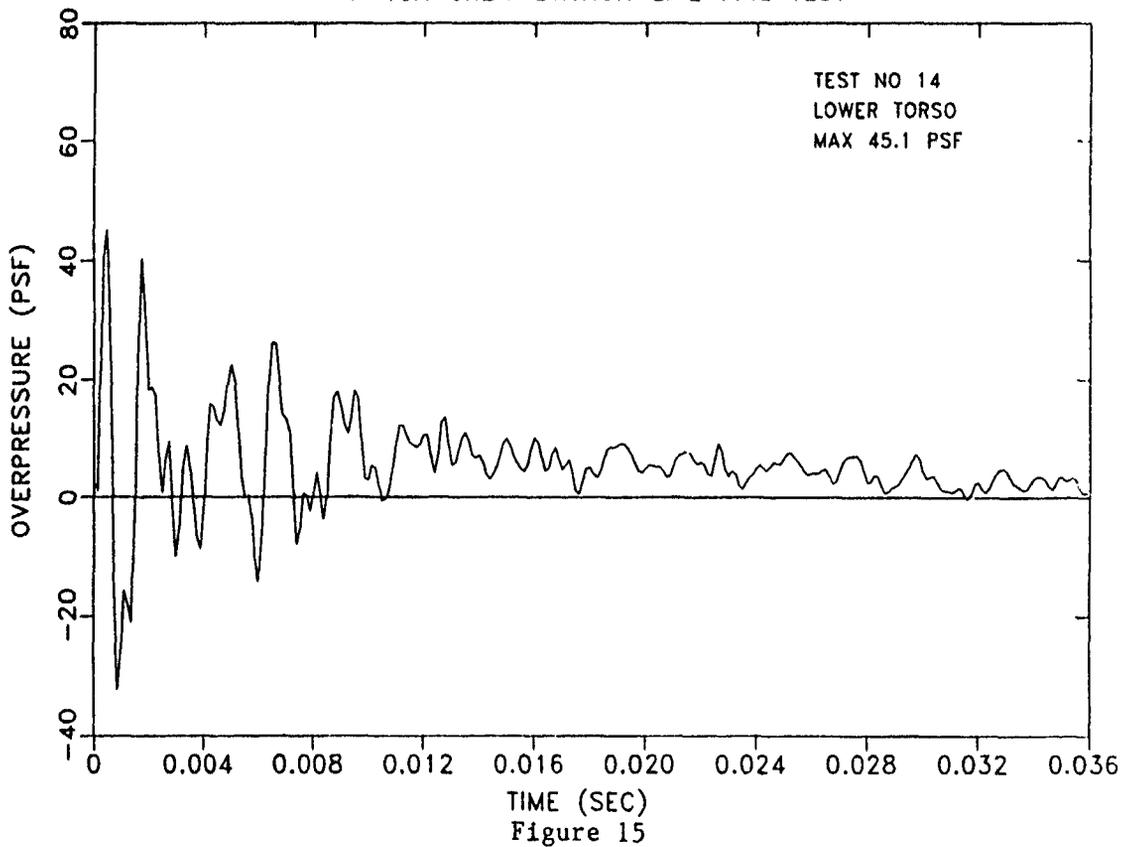
F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



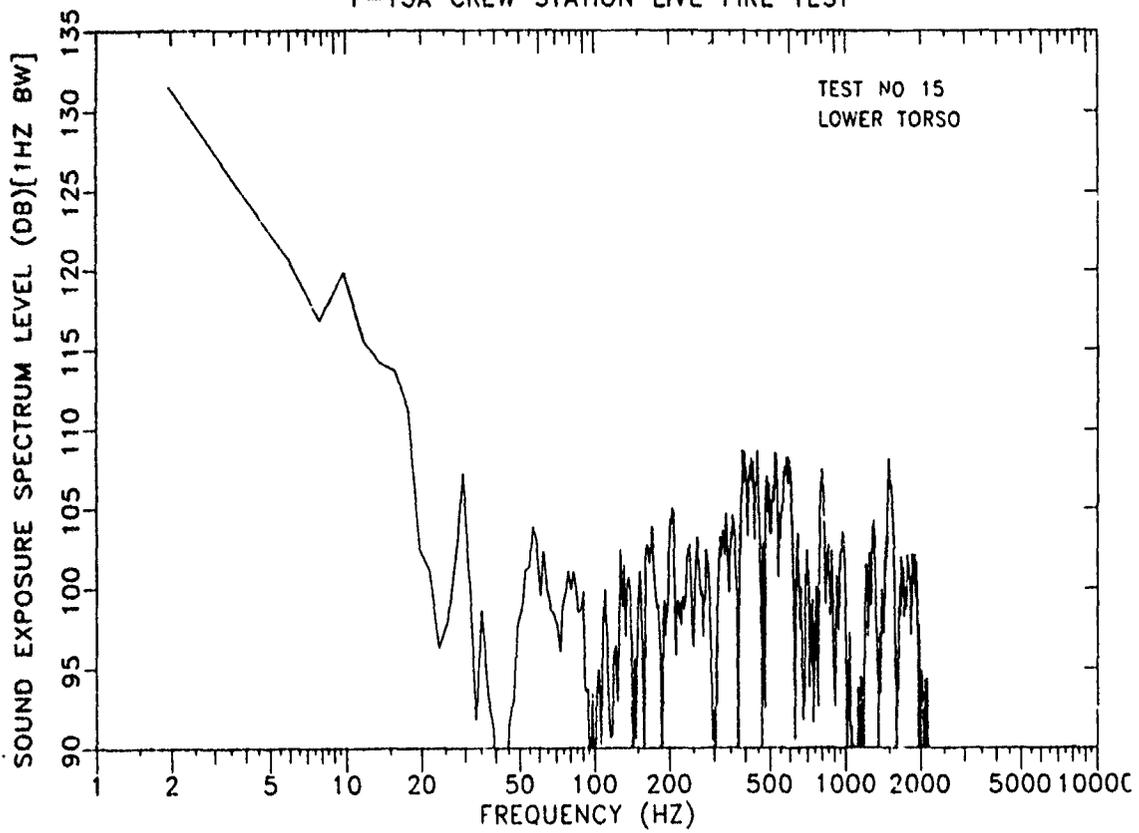
F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST

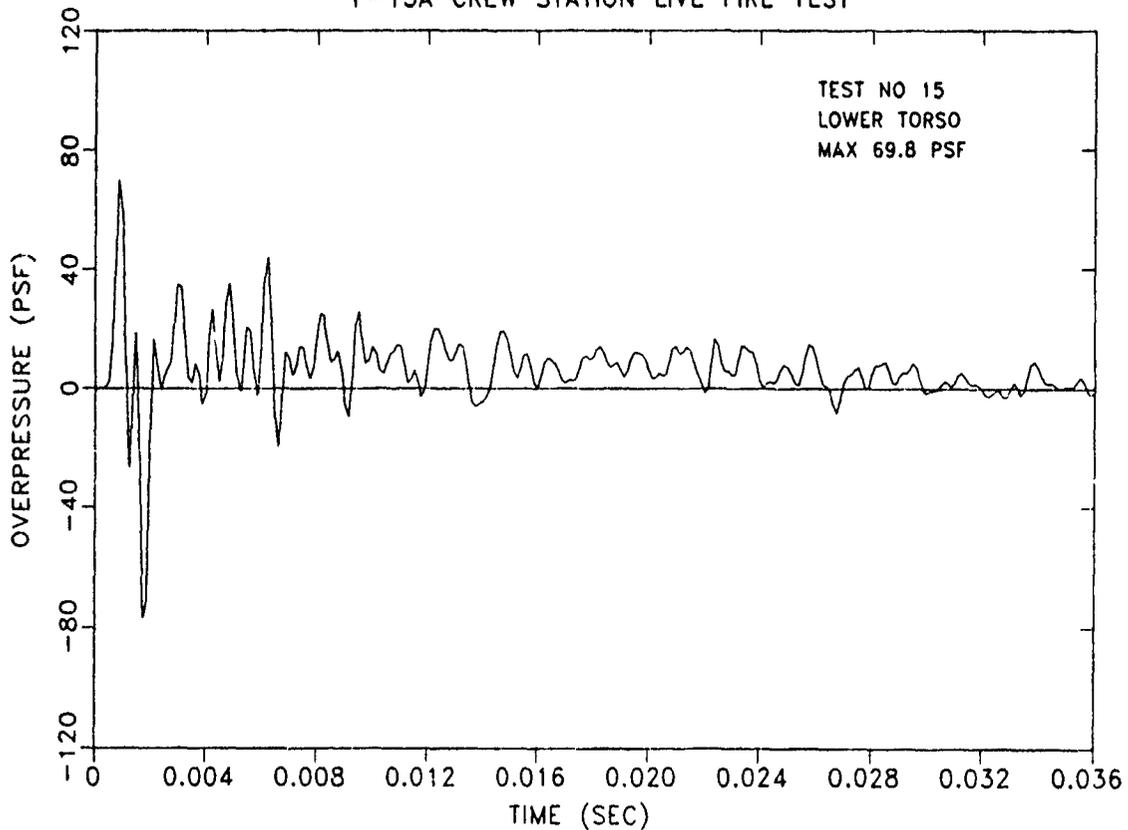
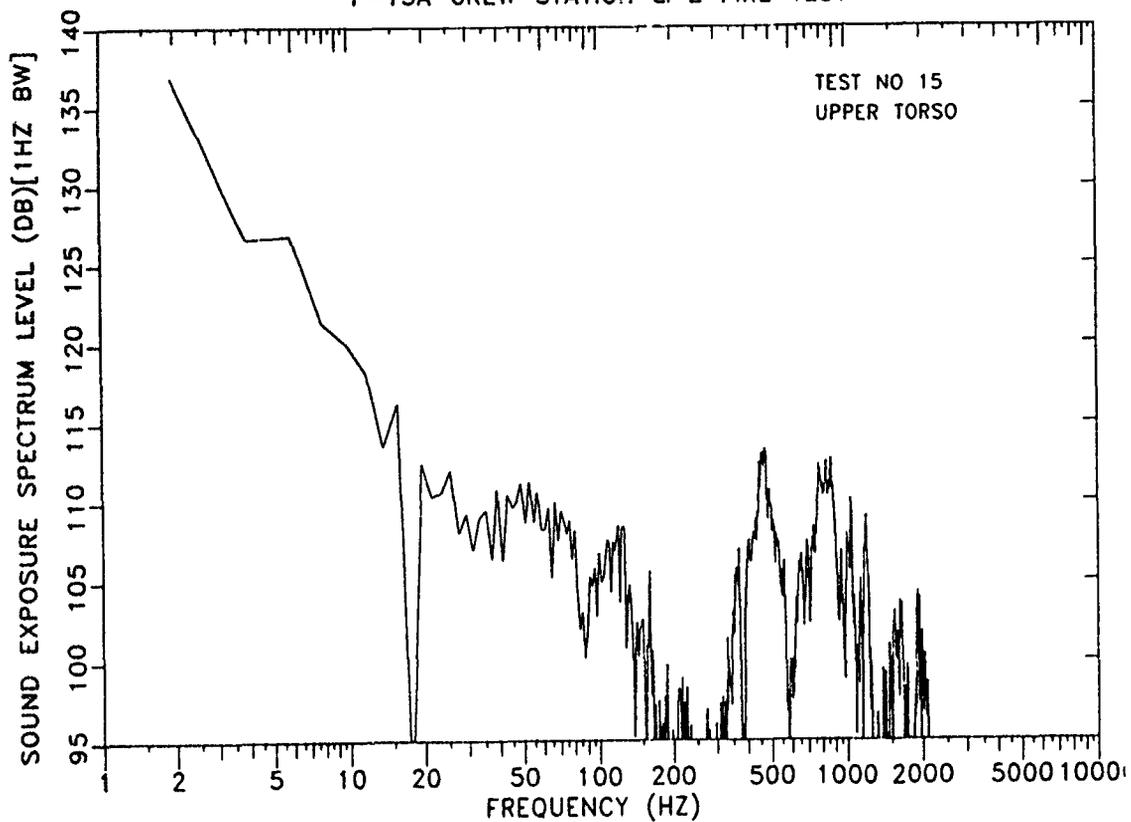


Figure 16

F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST

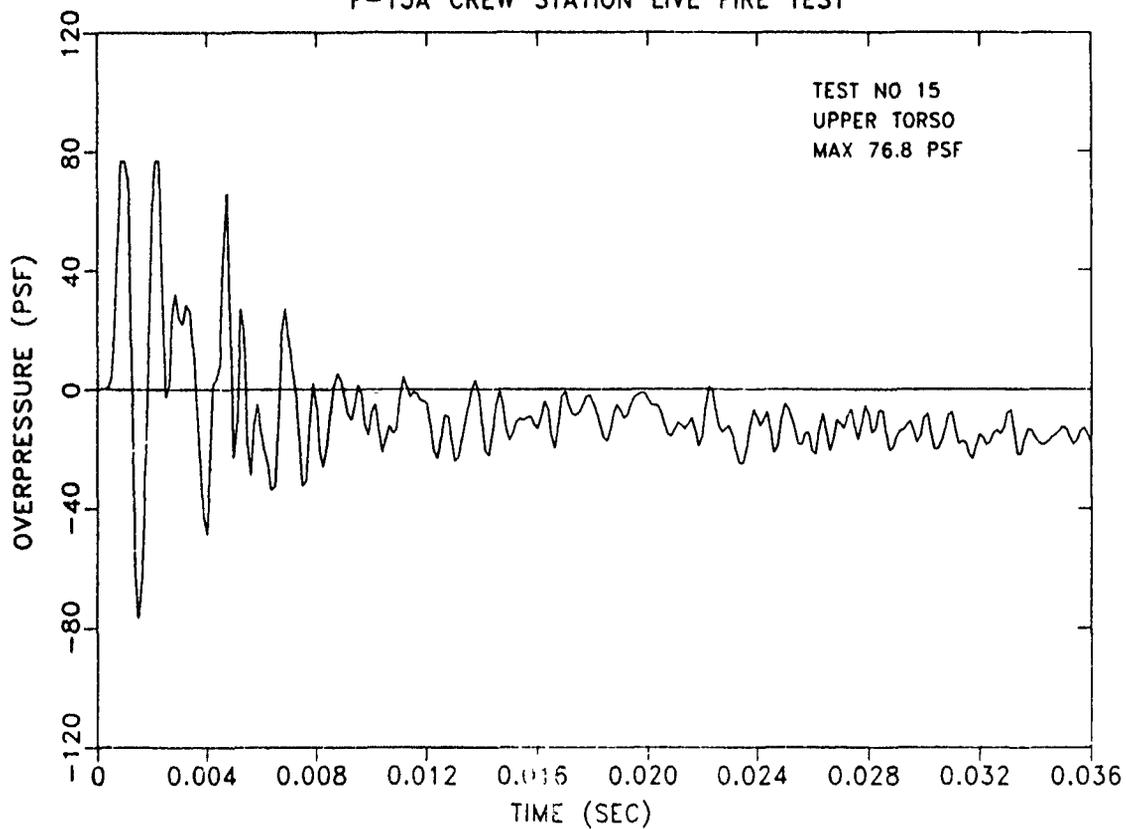
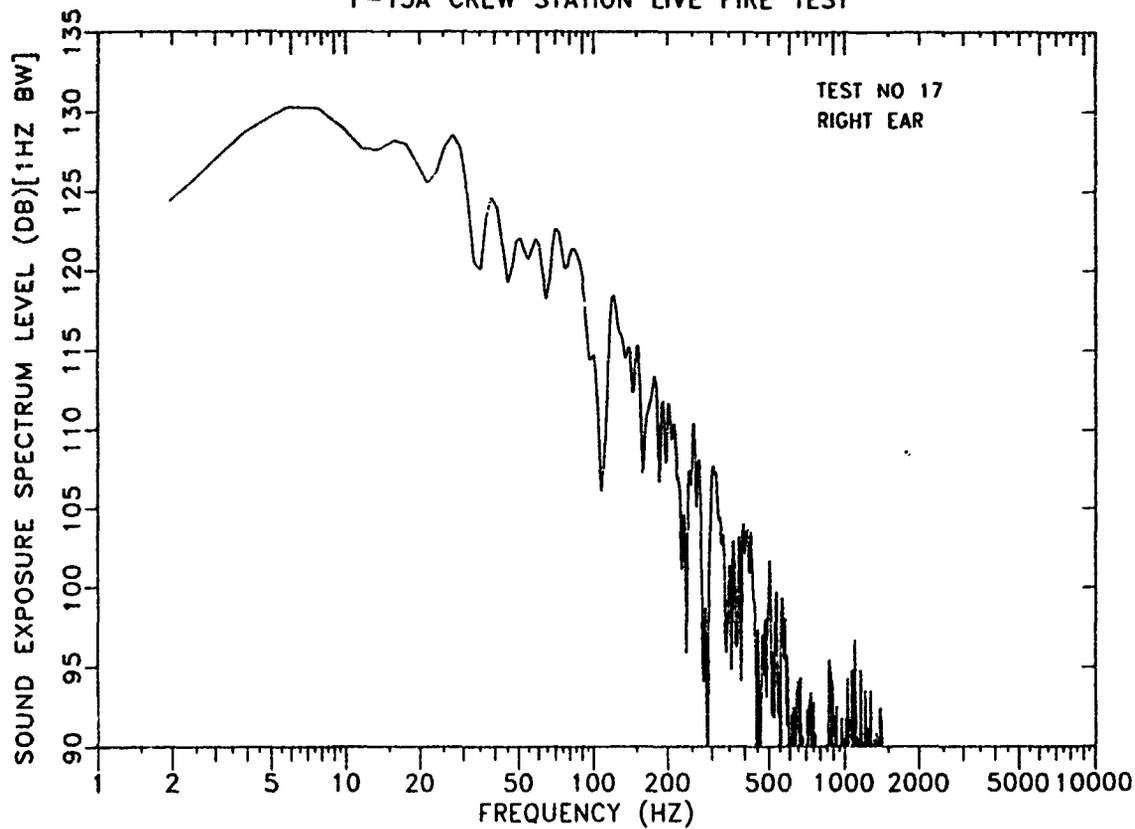
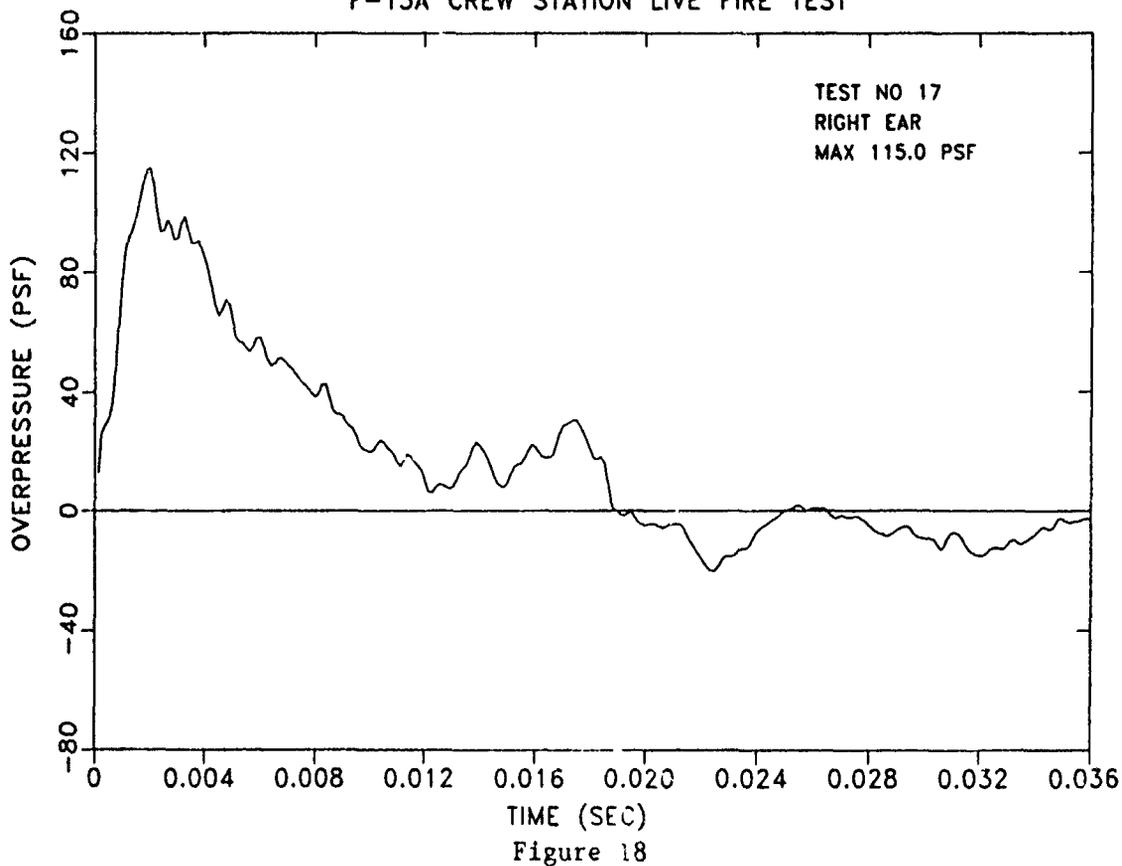


Figure 17

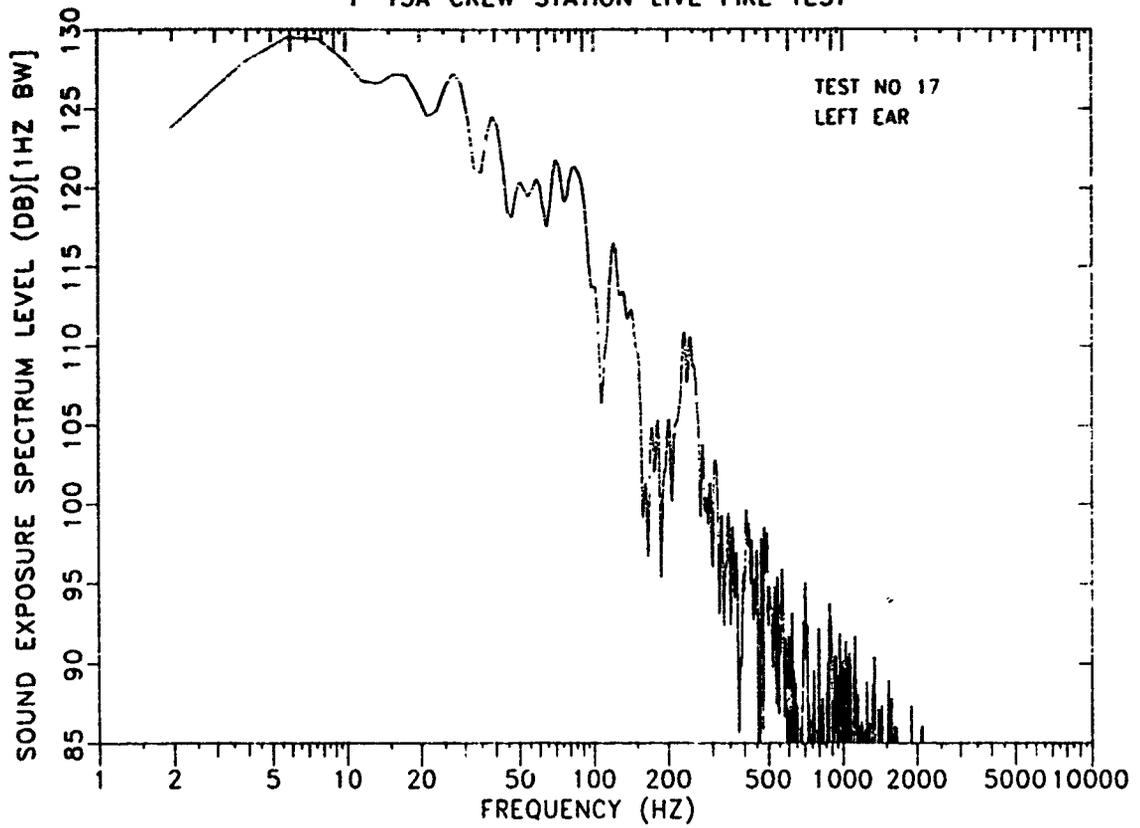
F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST

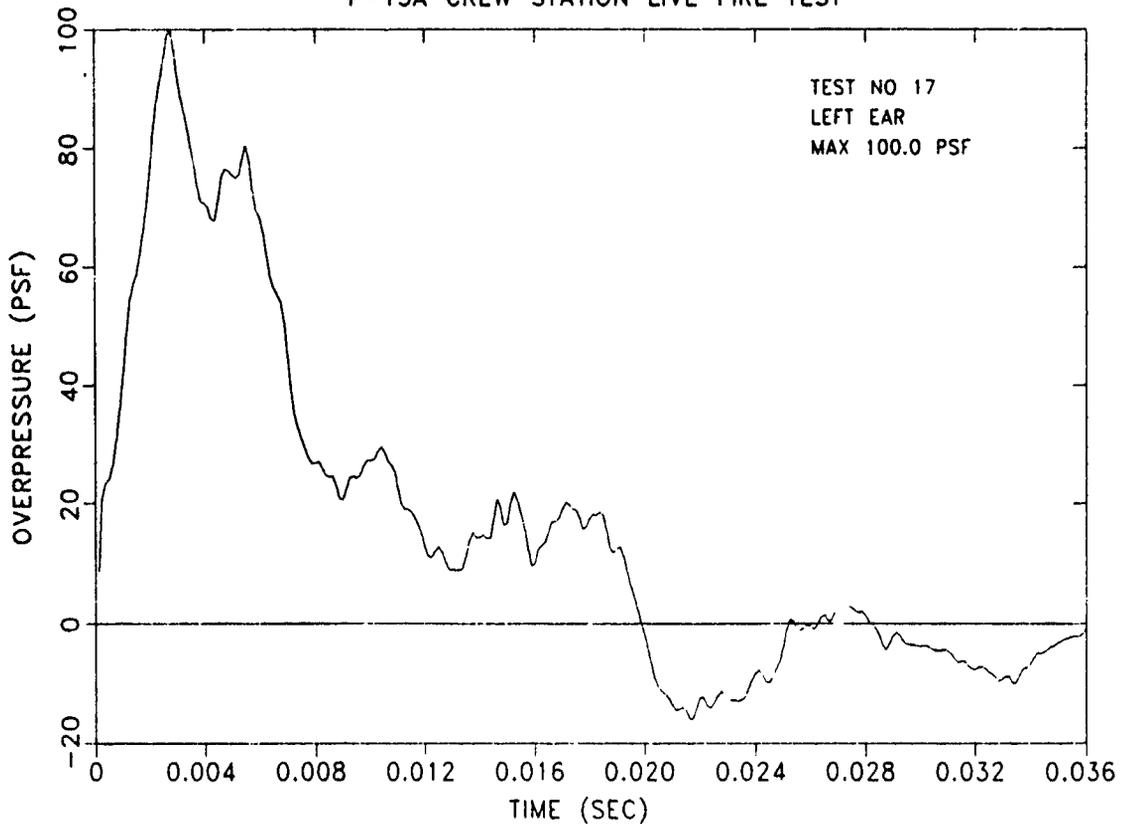
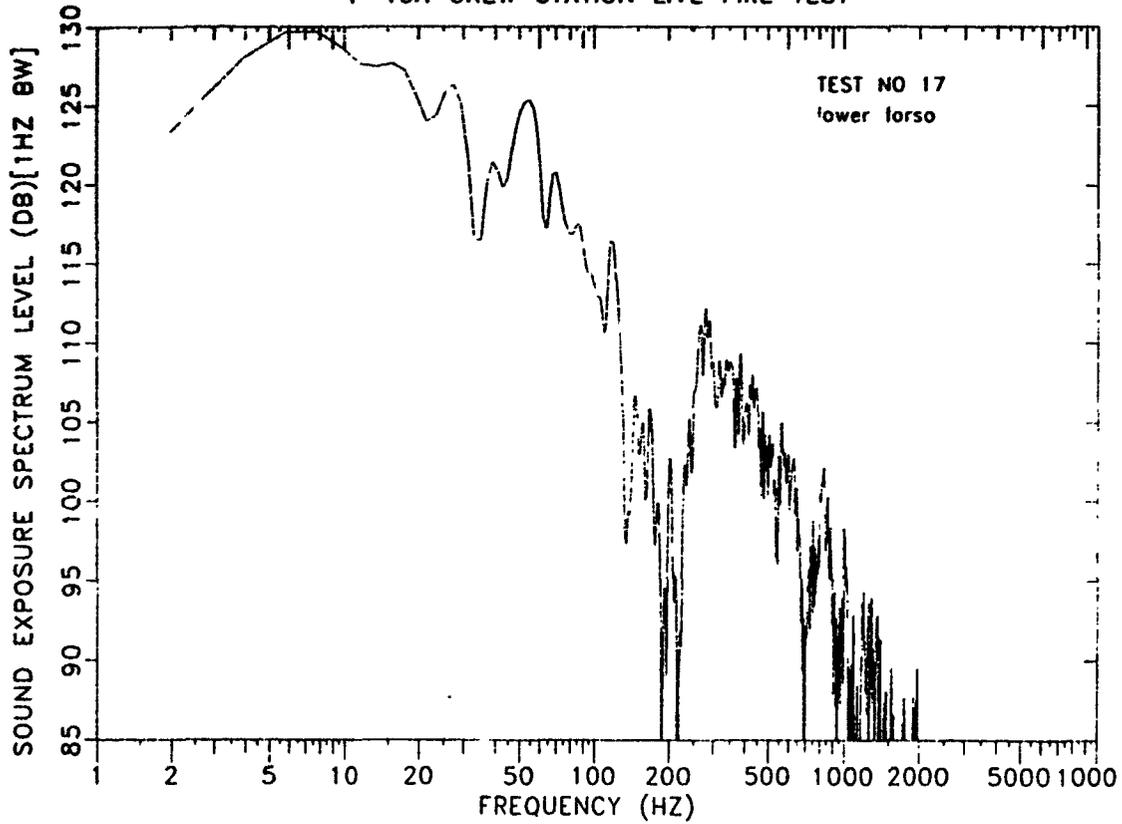
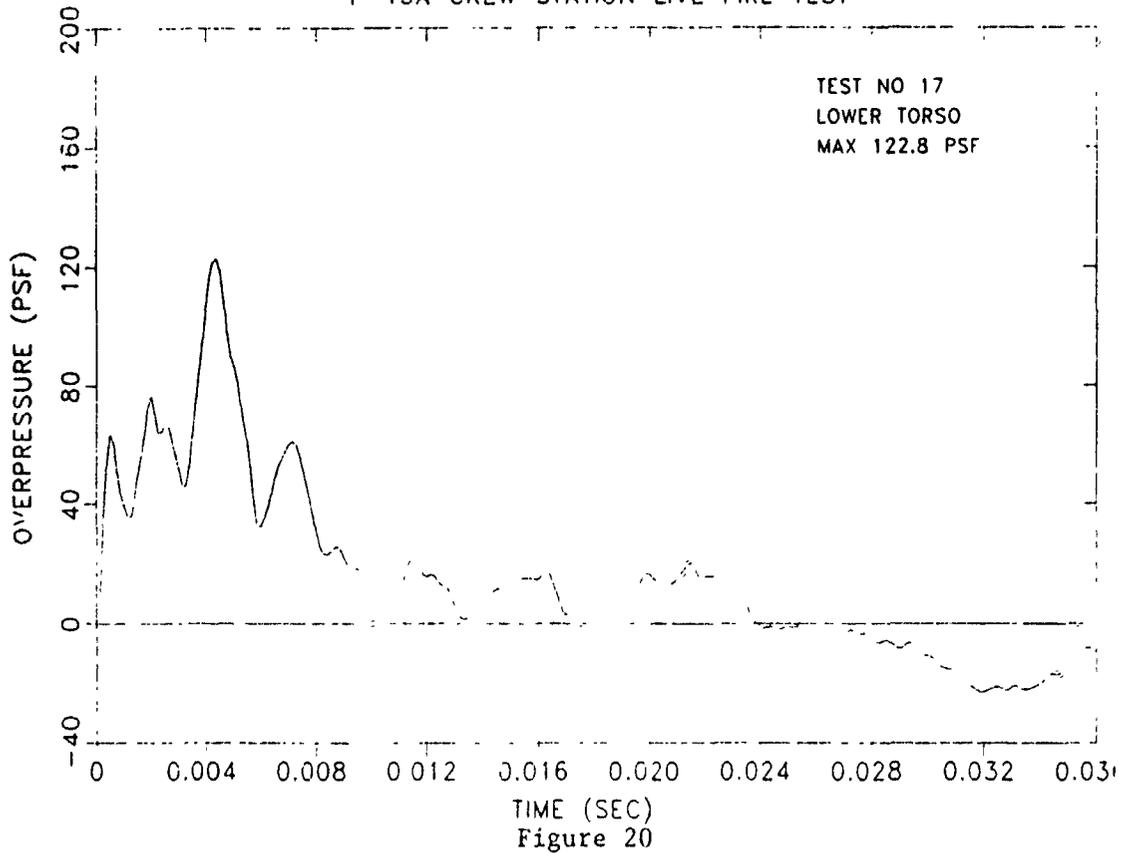


Figure 19

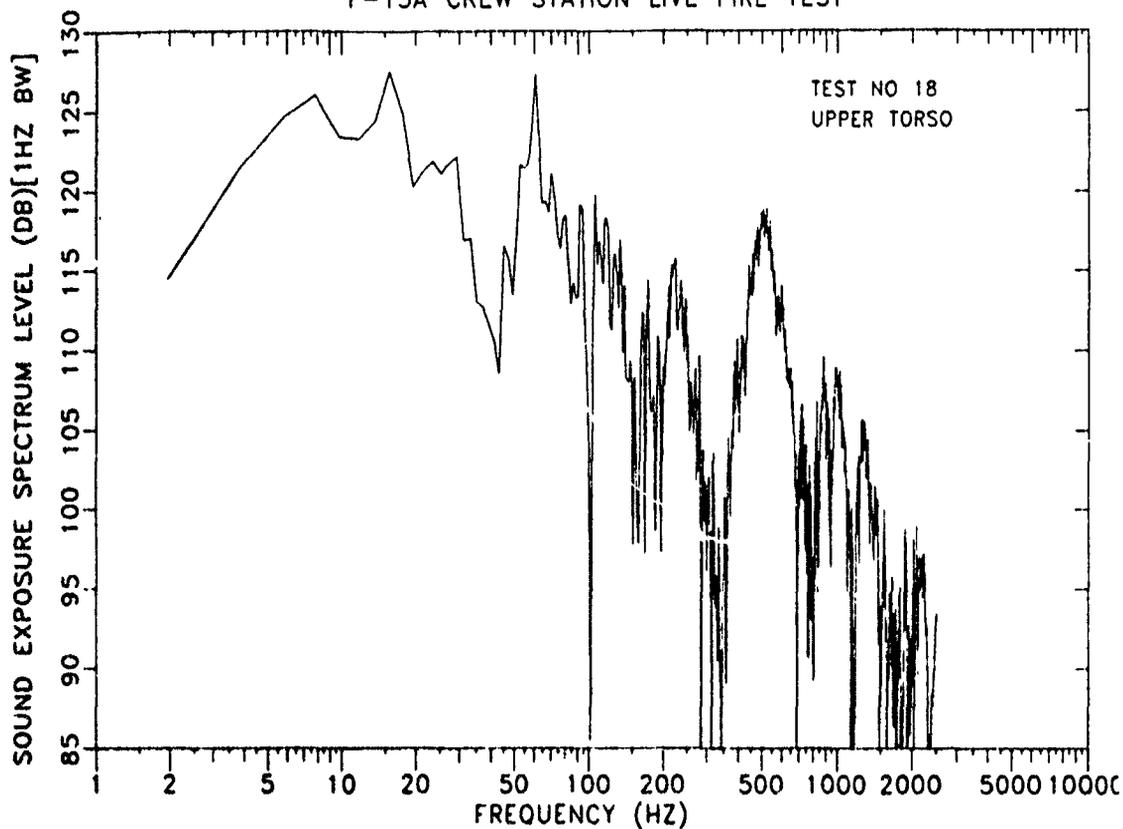
F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



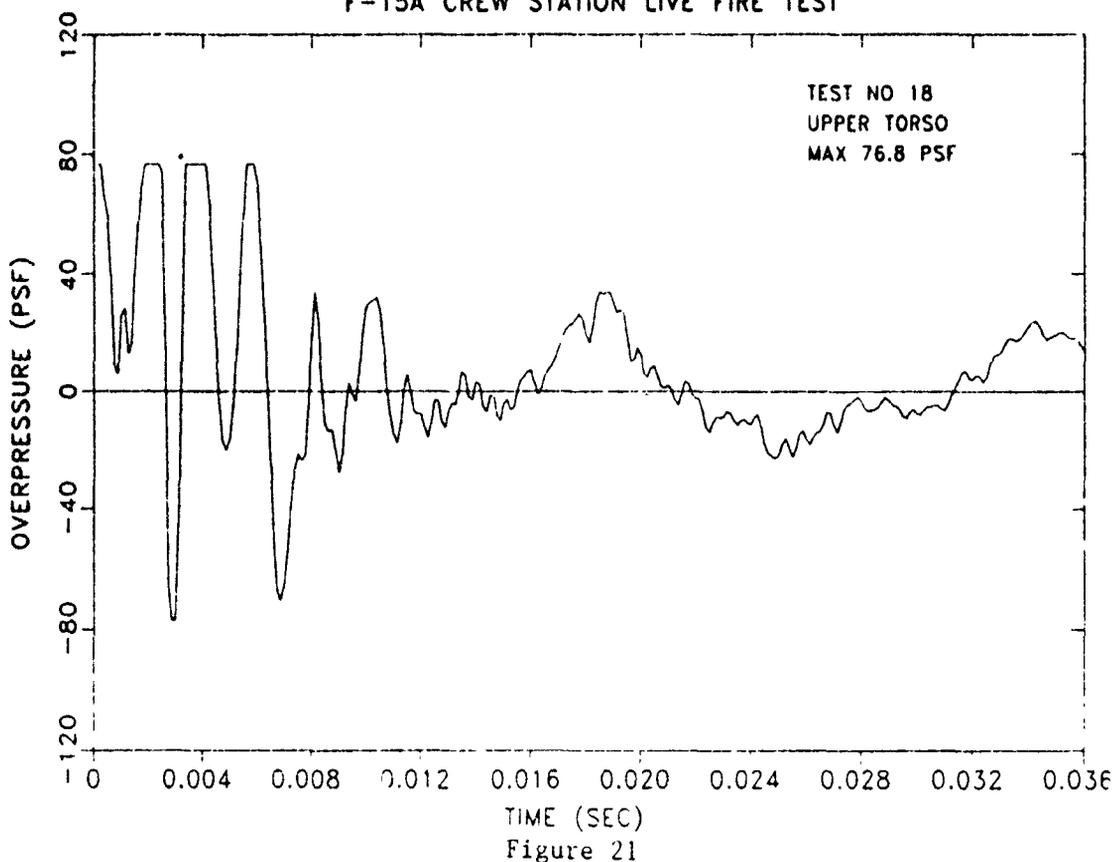
F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



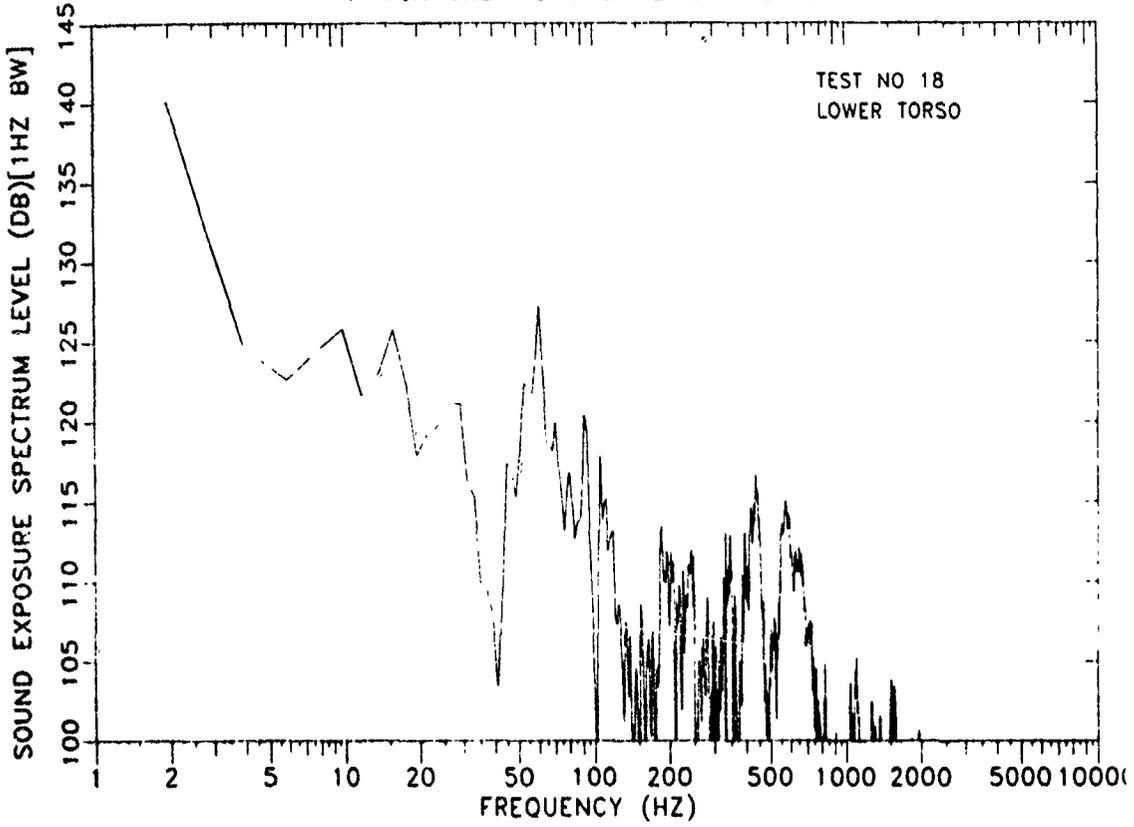
F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



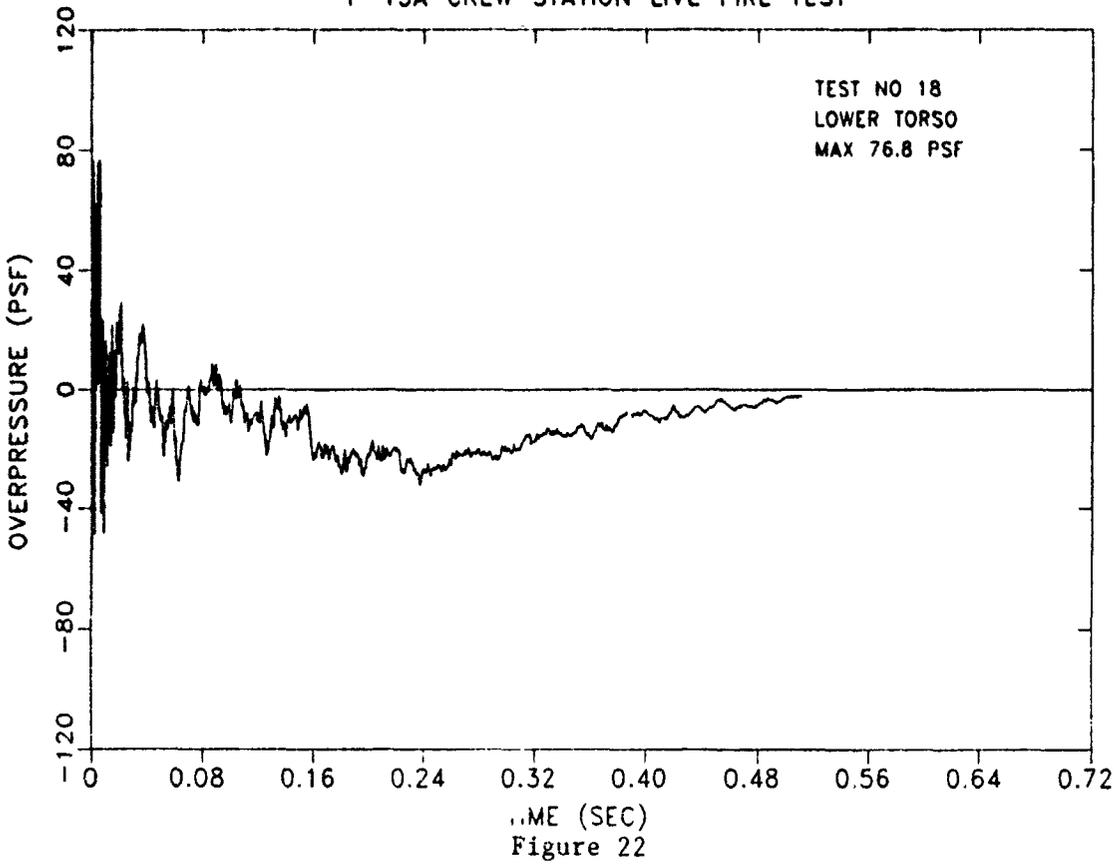
F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



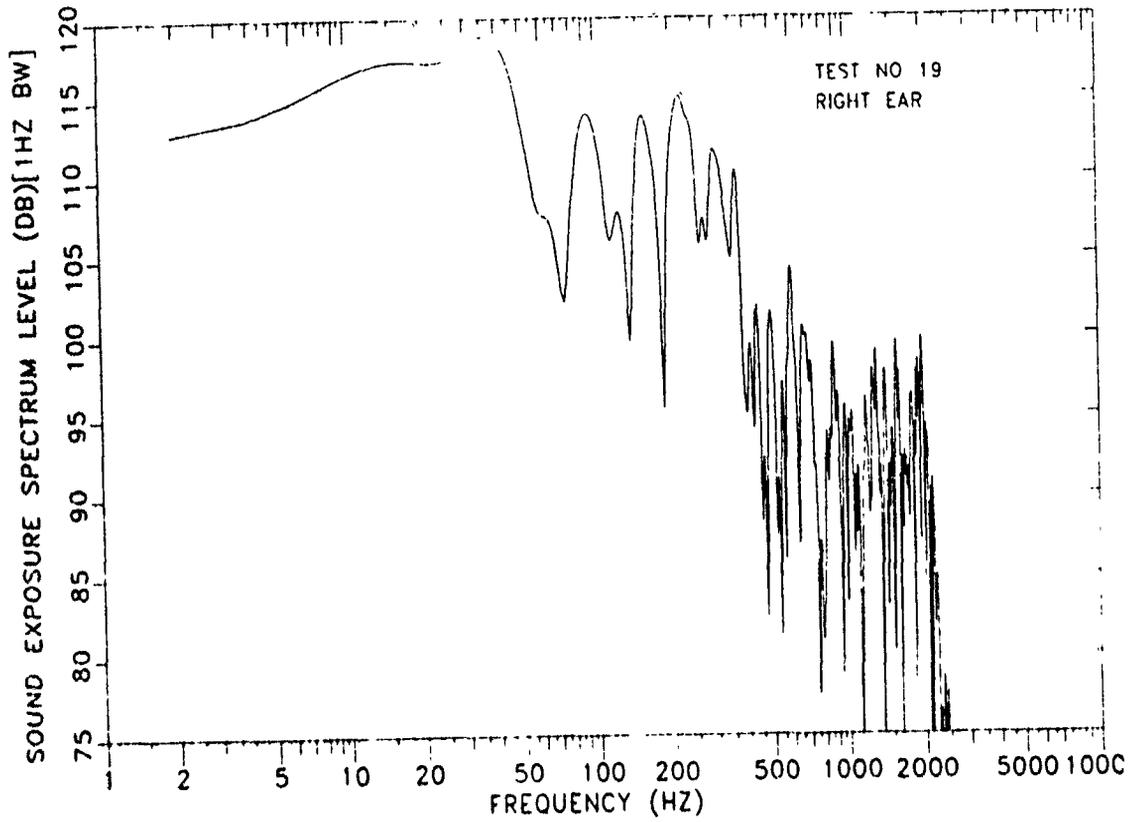
F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



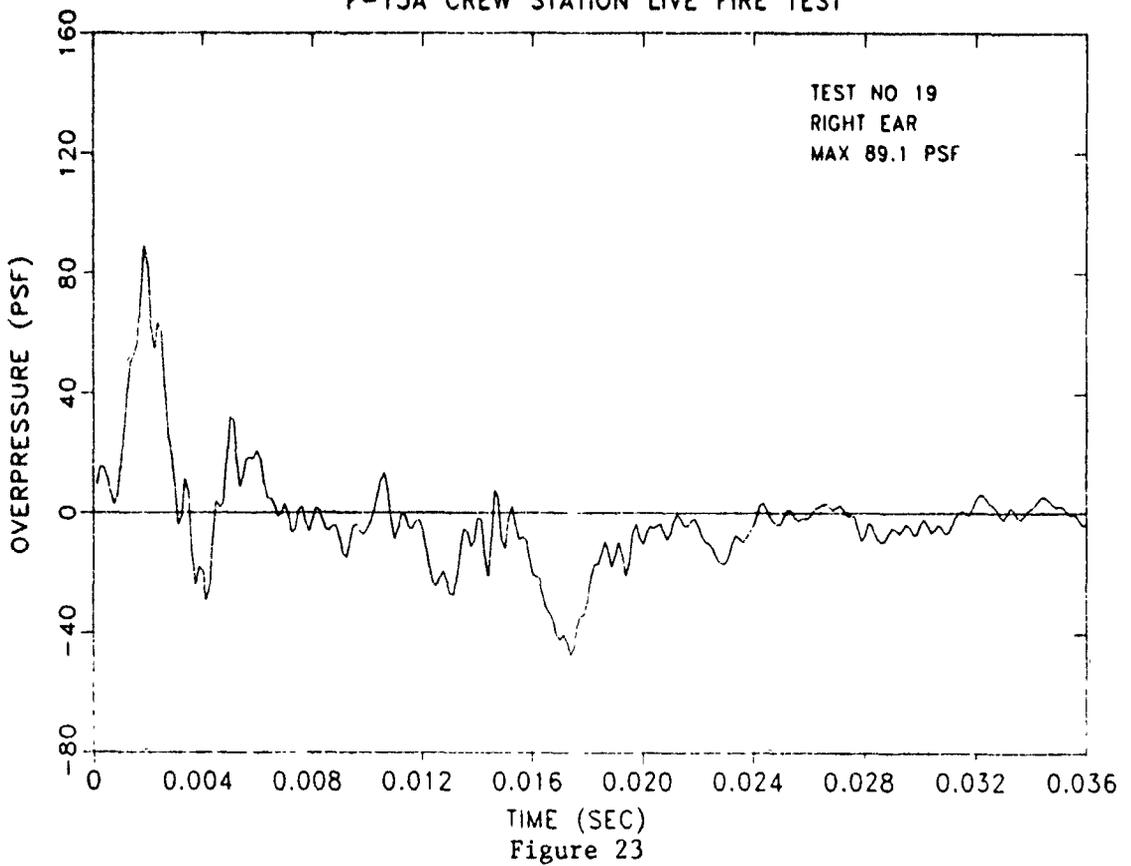
F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



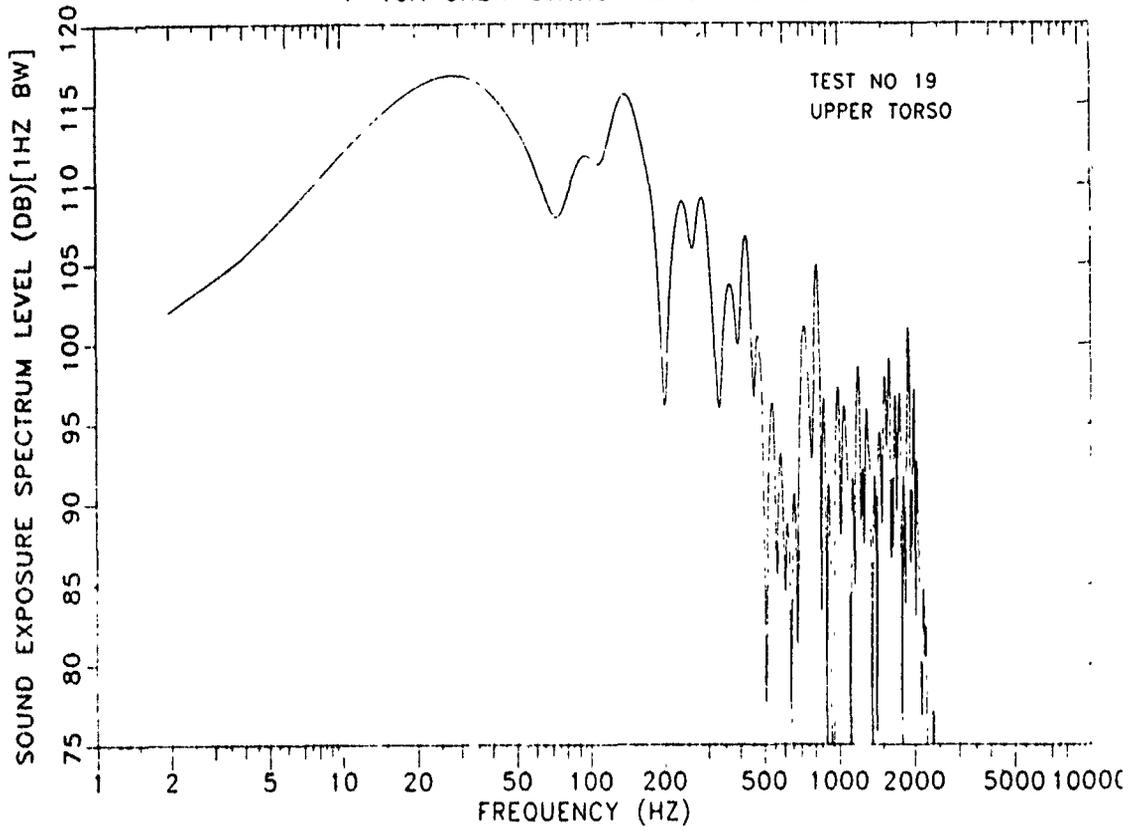
F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



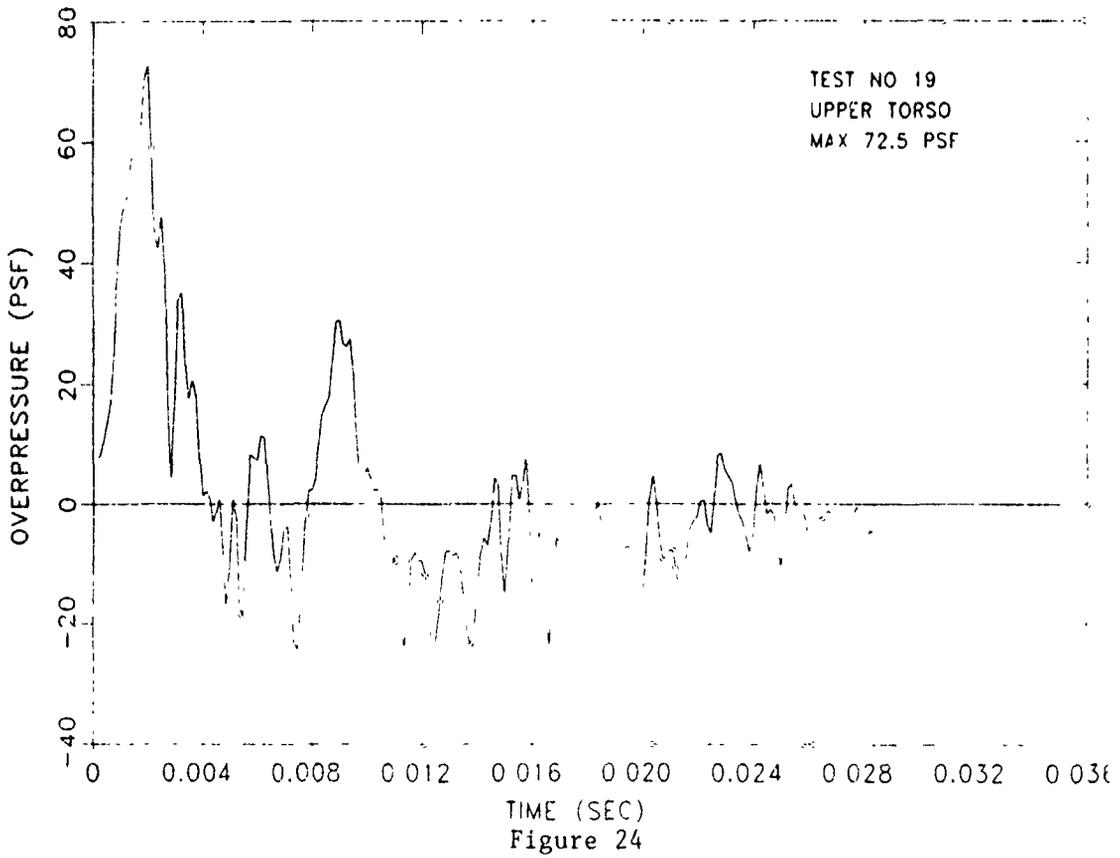
F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



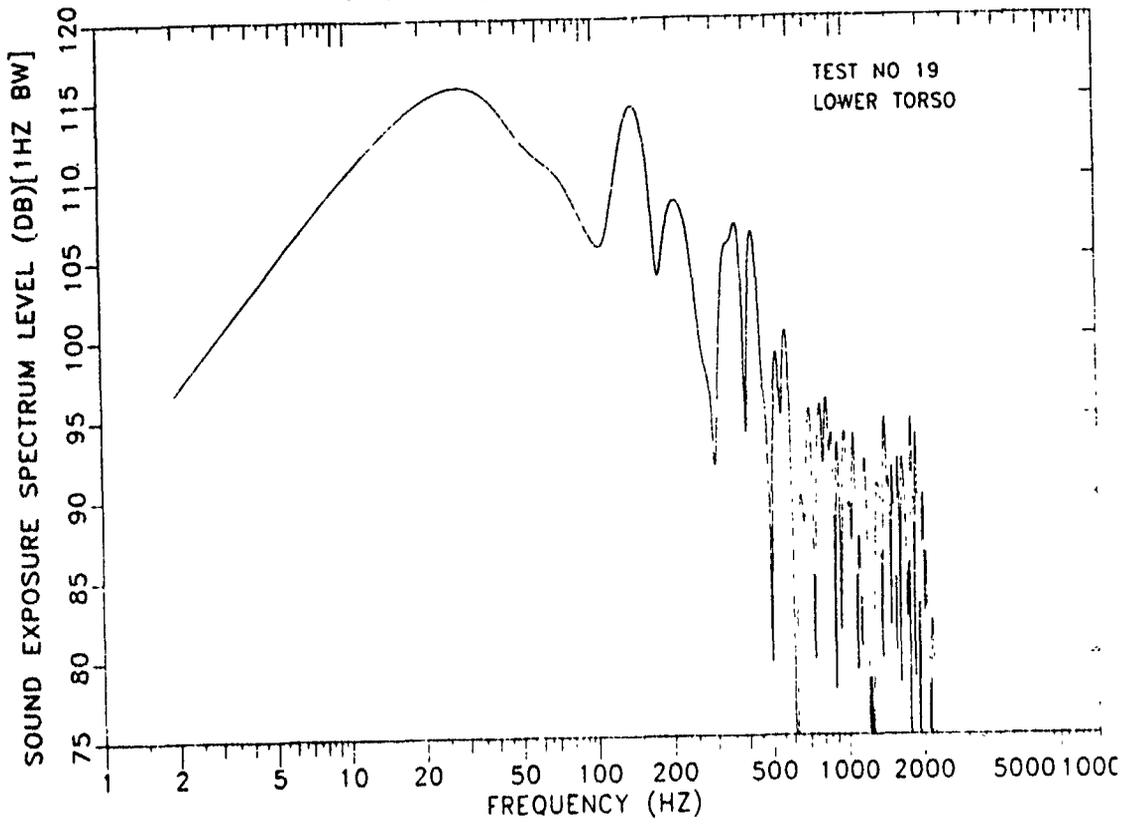
F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



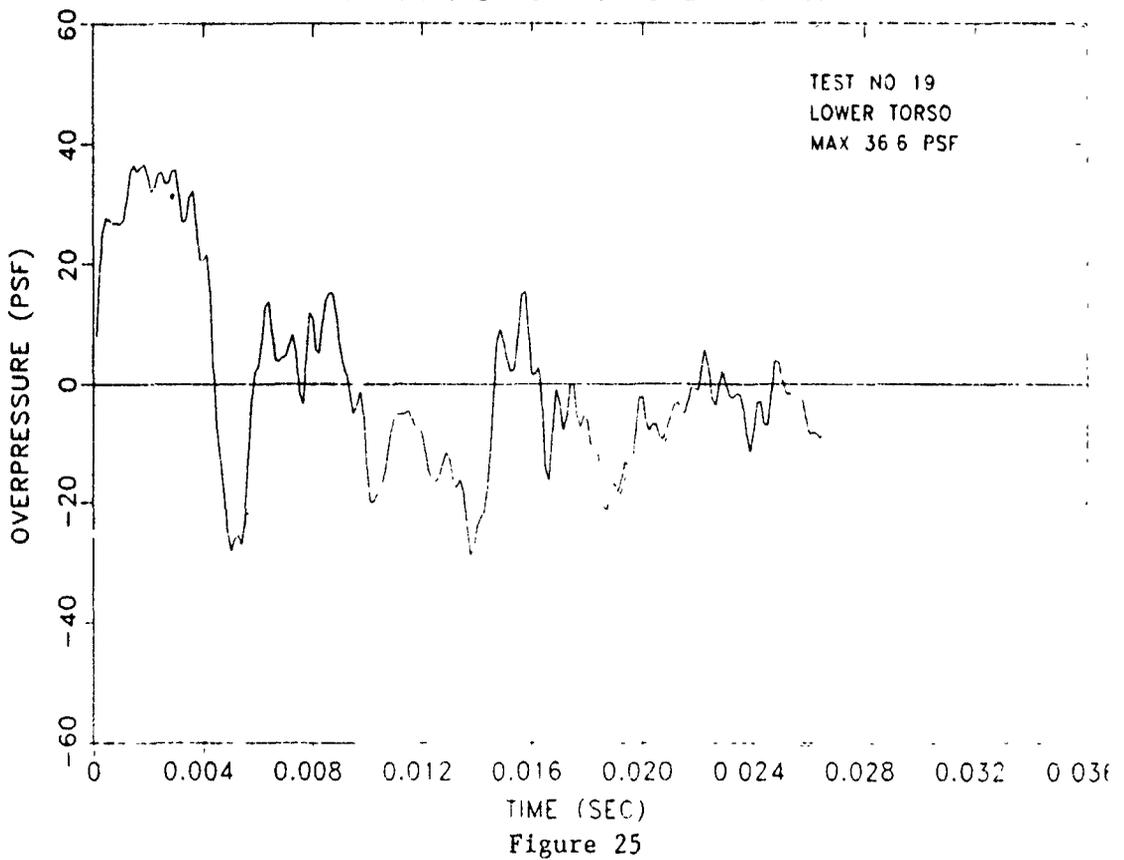
F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



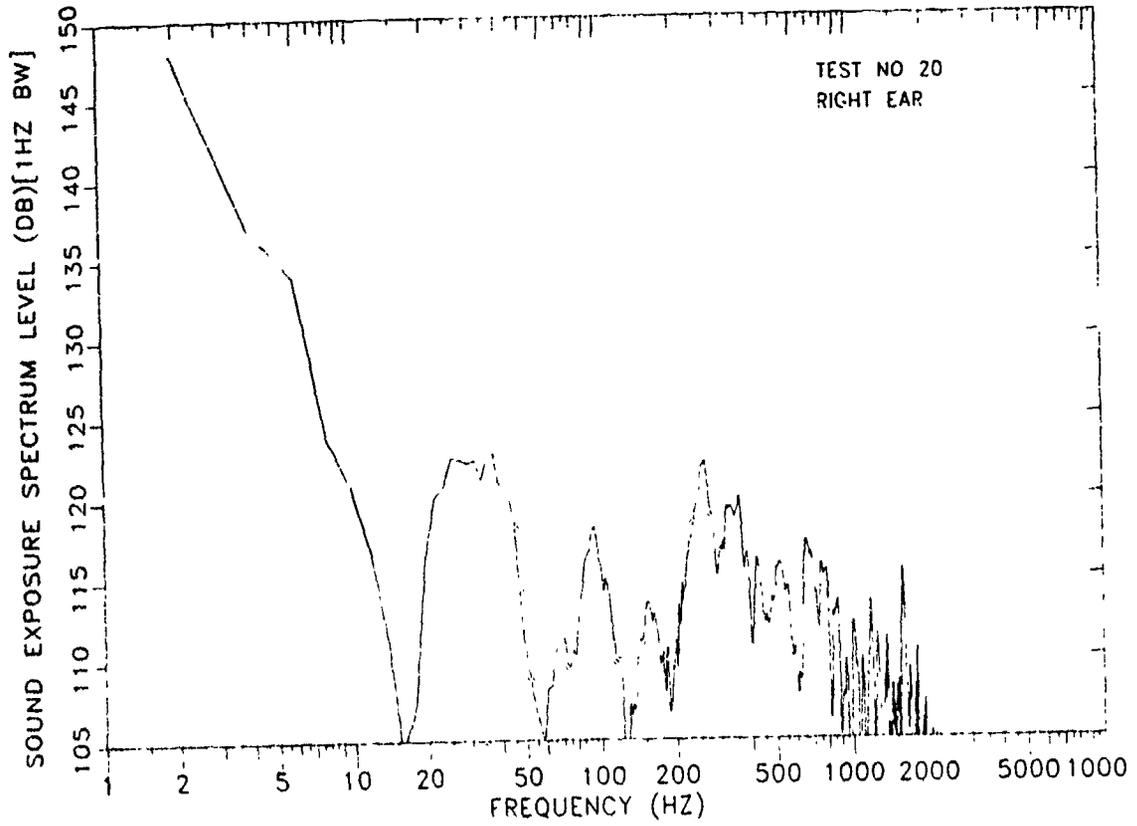
F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST

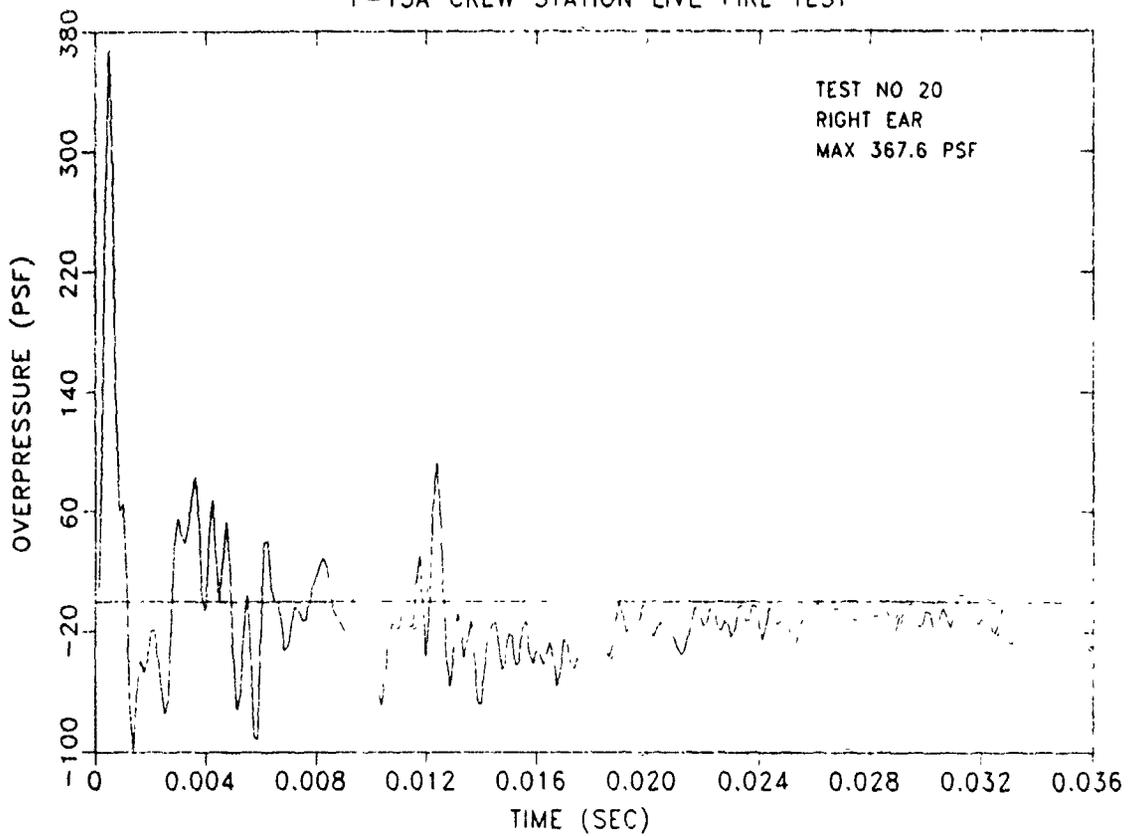
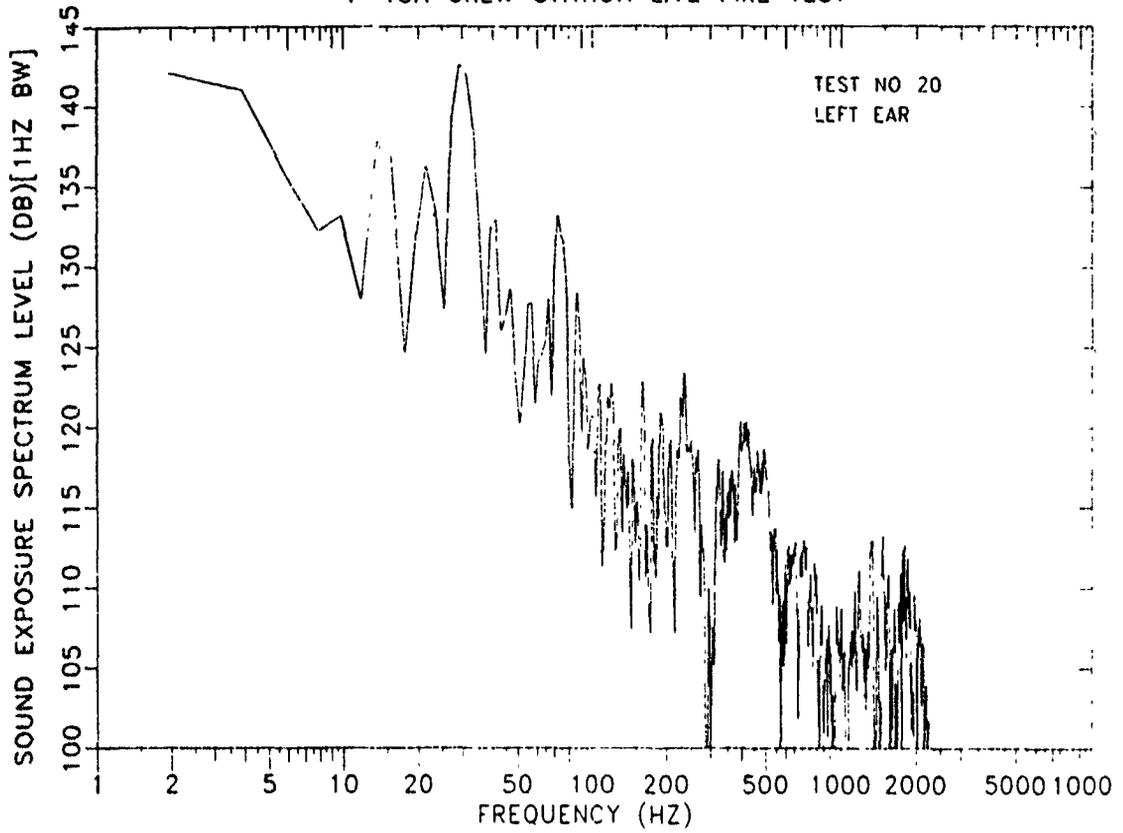


Figure 26

F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST

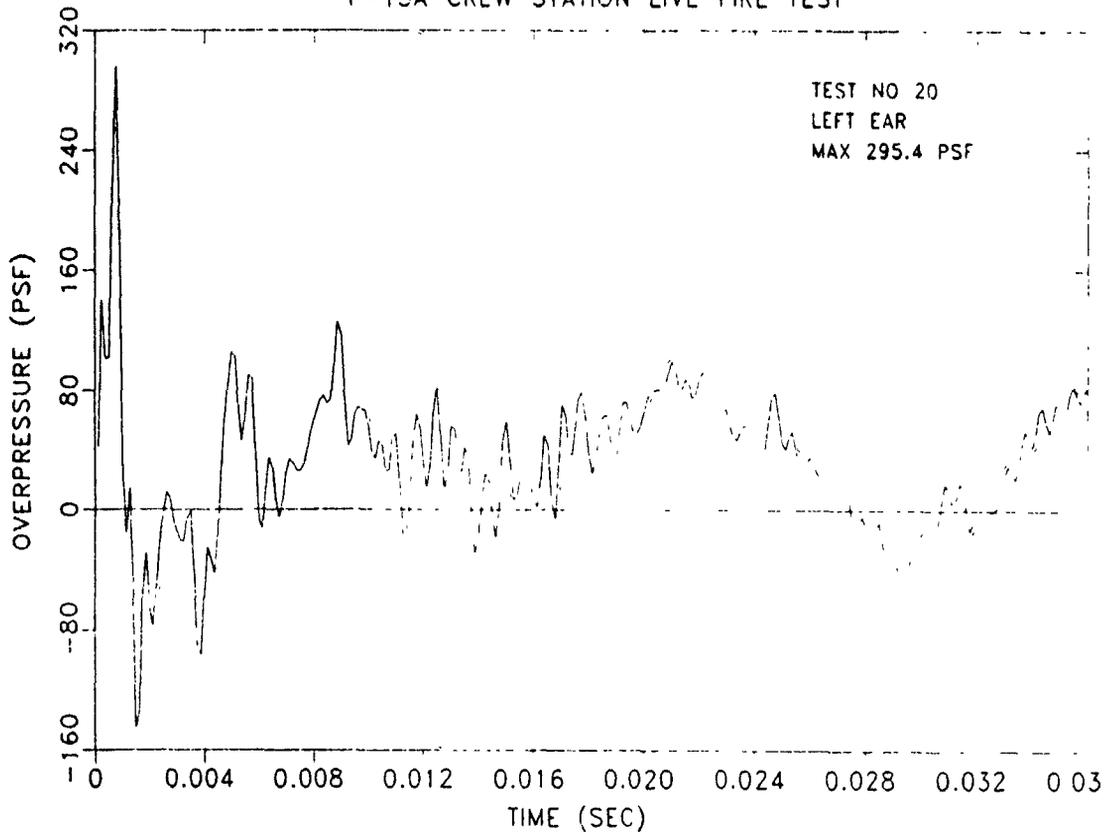
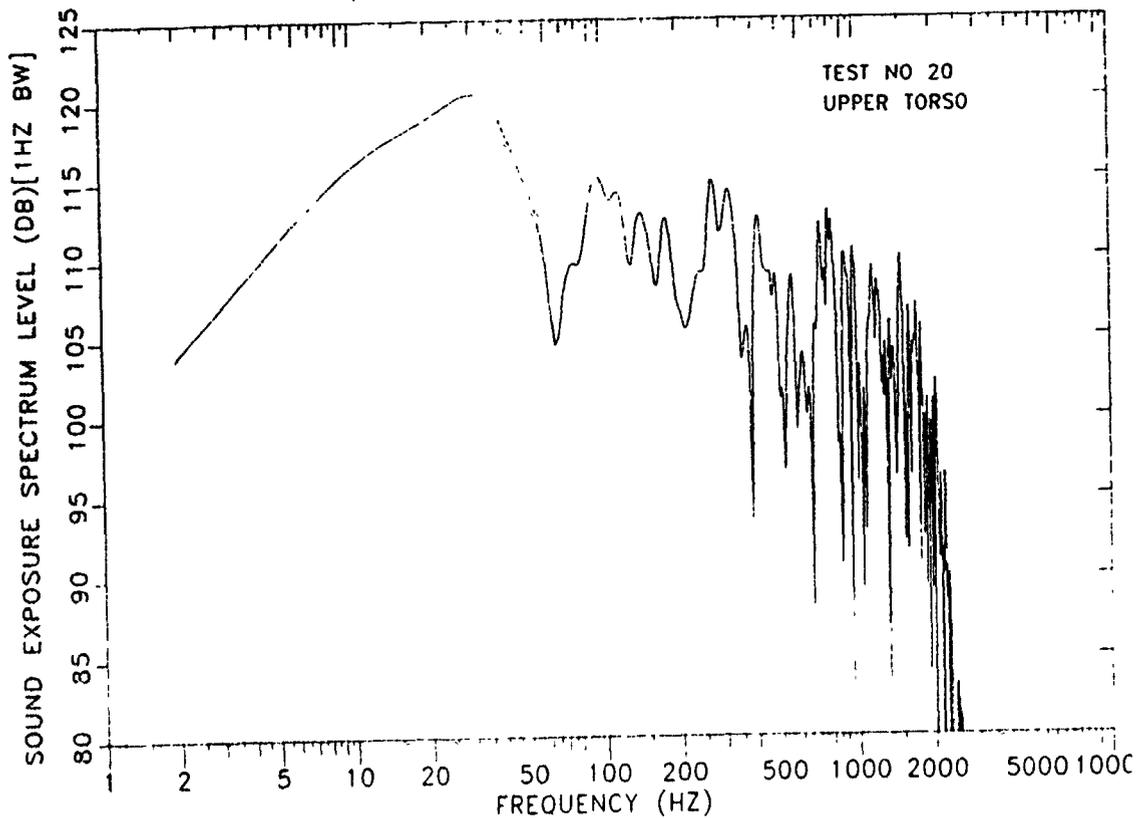
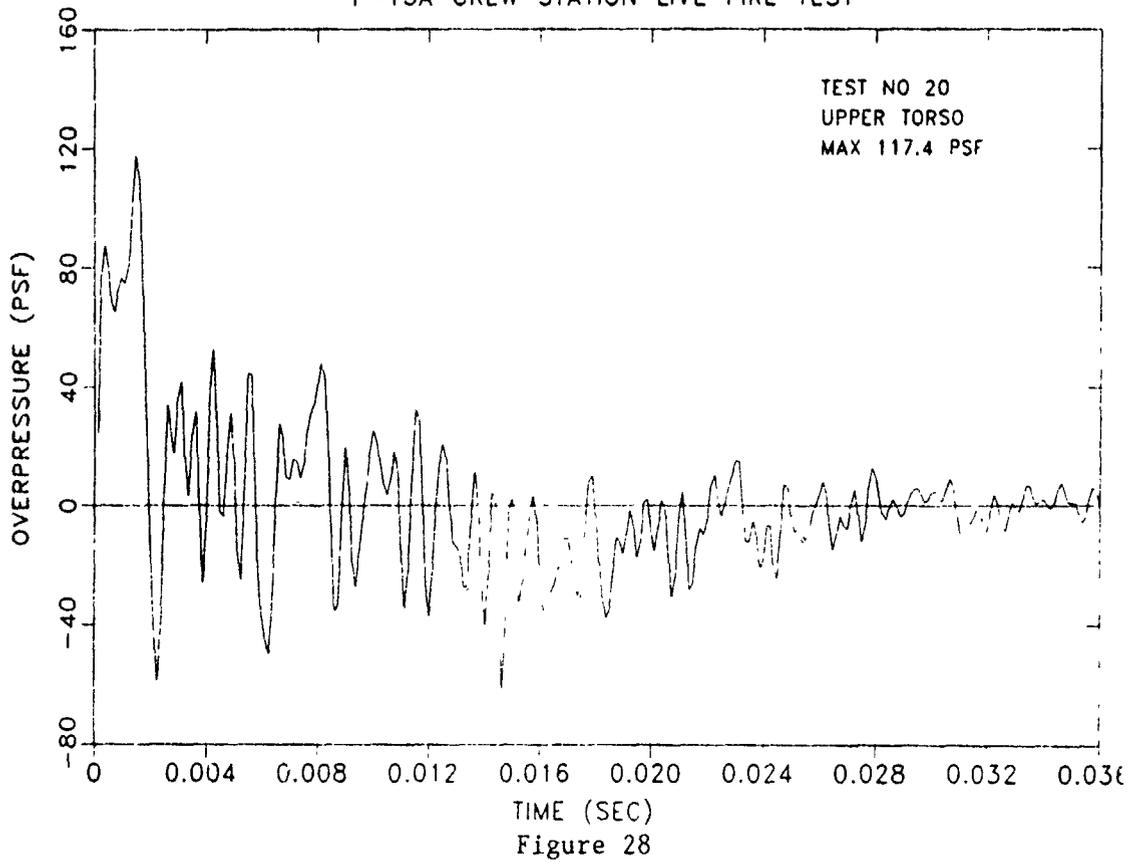


Figure 27

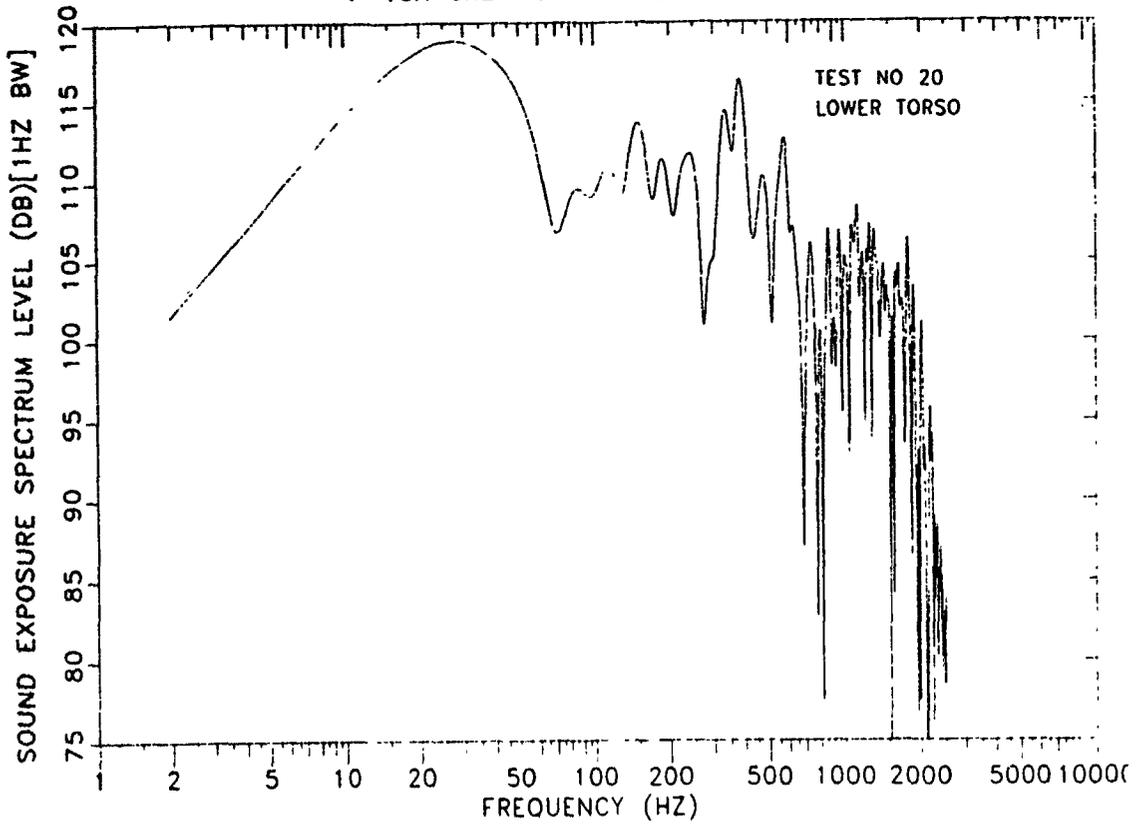
F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



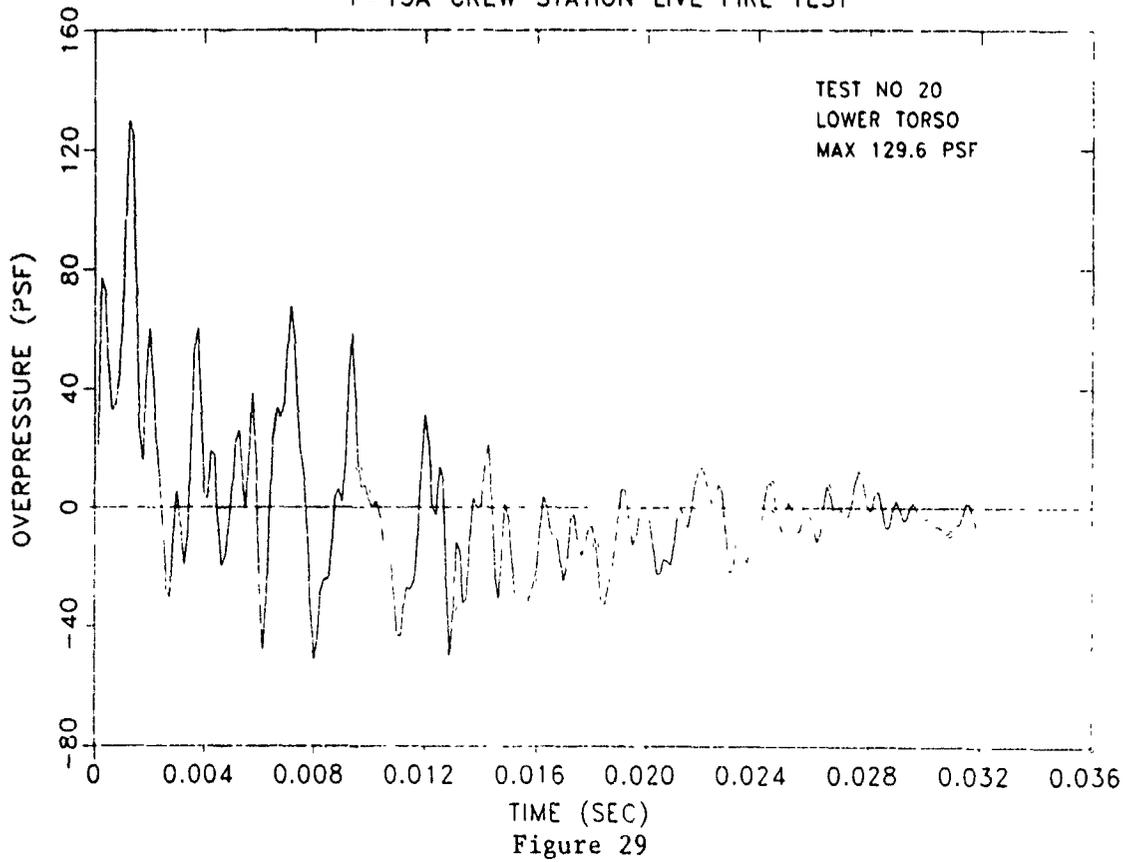
F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



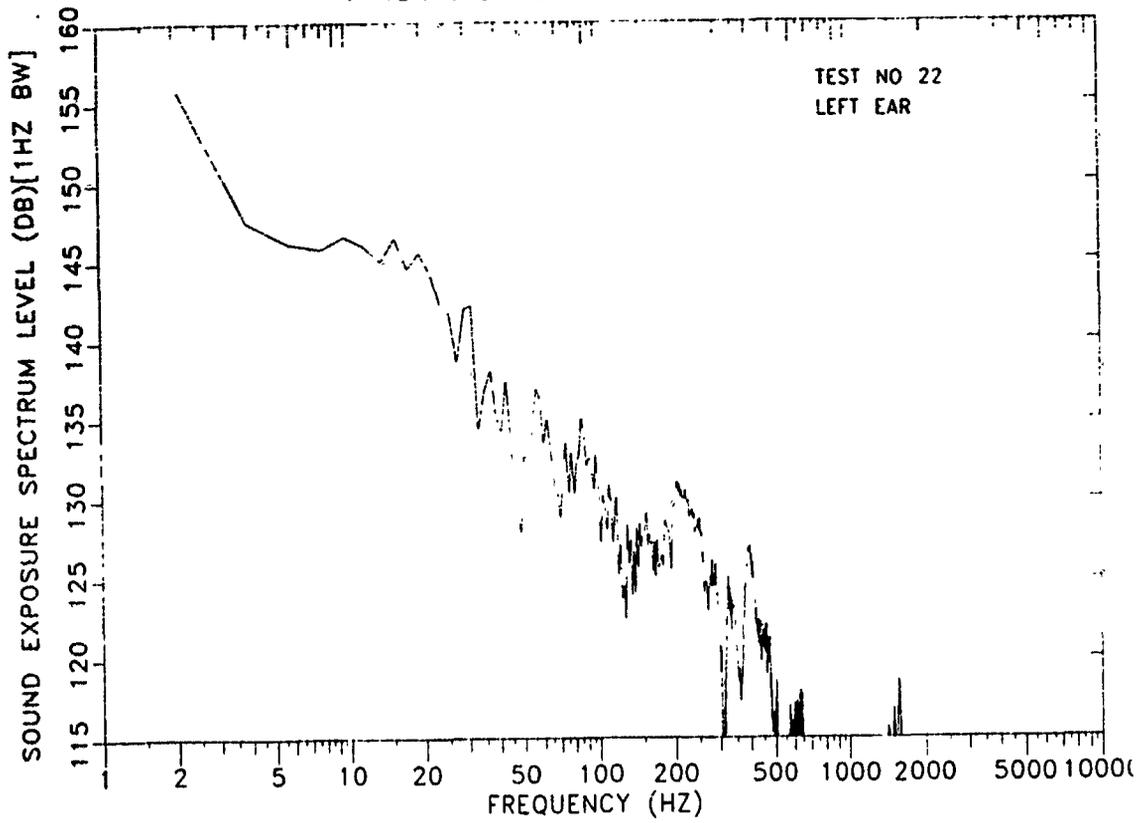
F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST

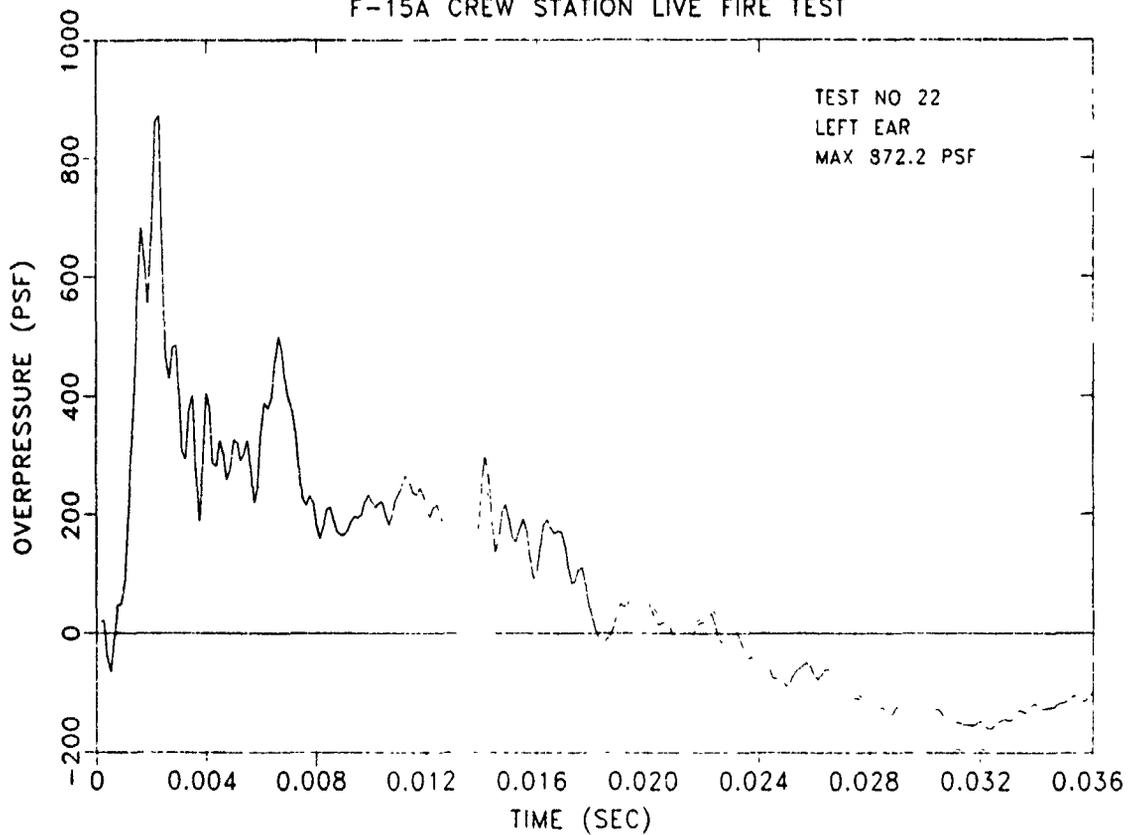
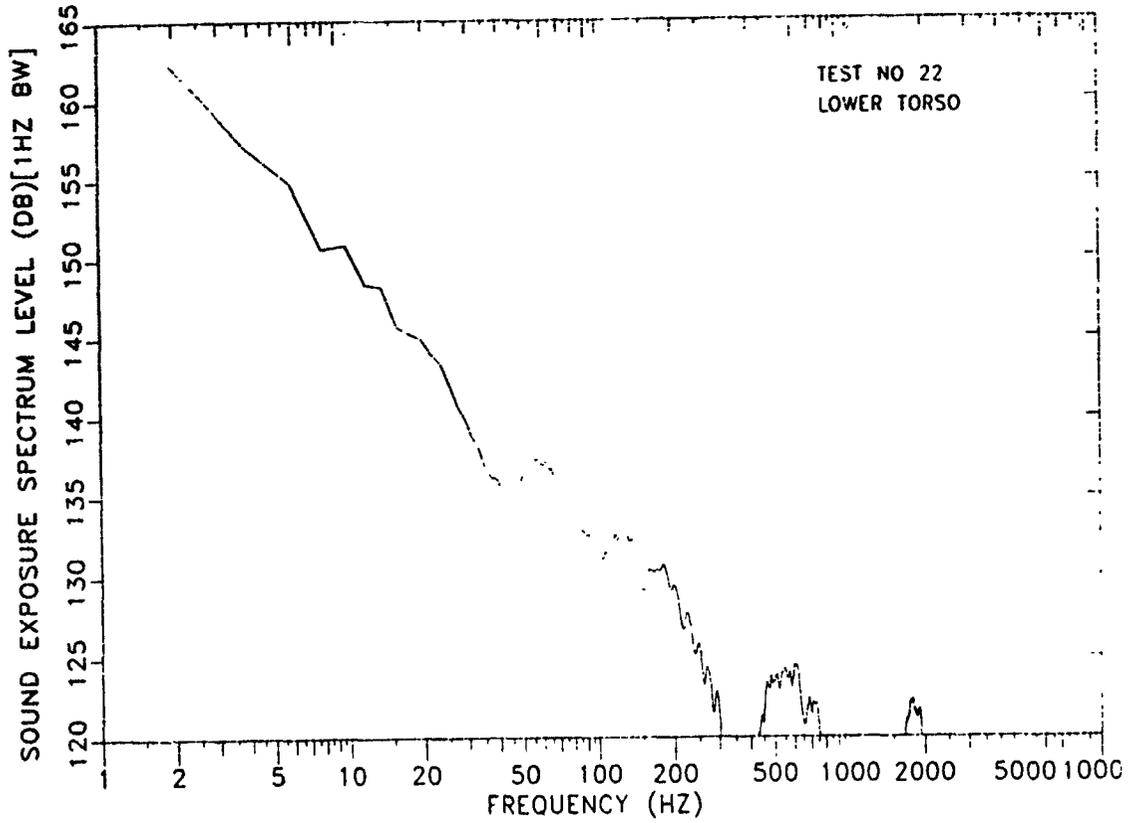
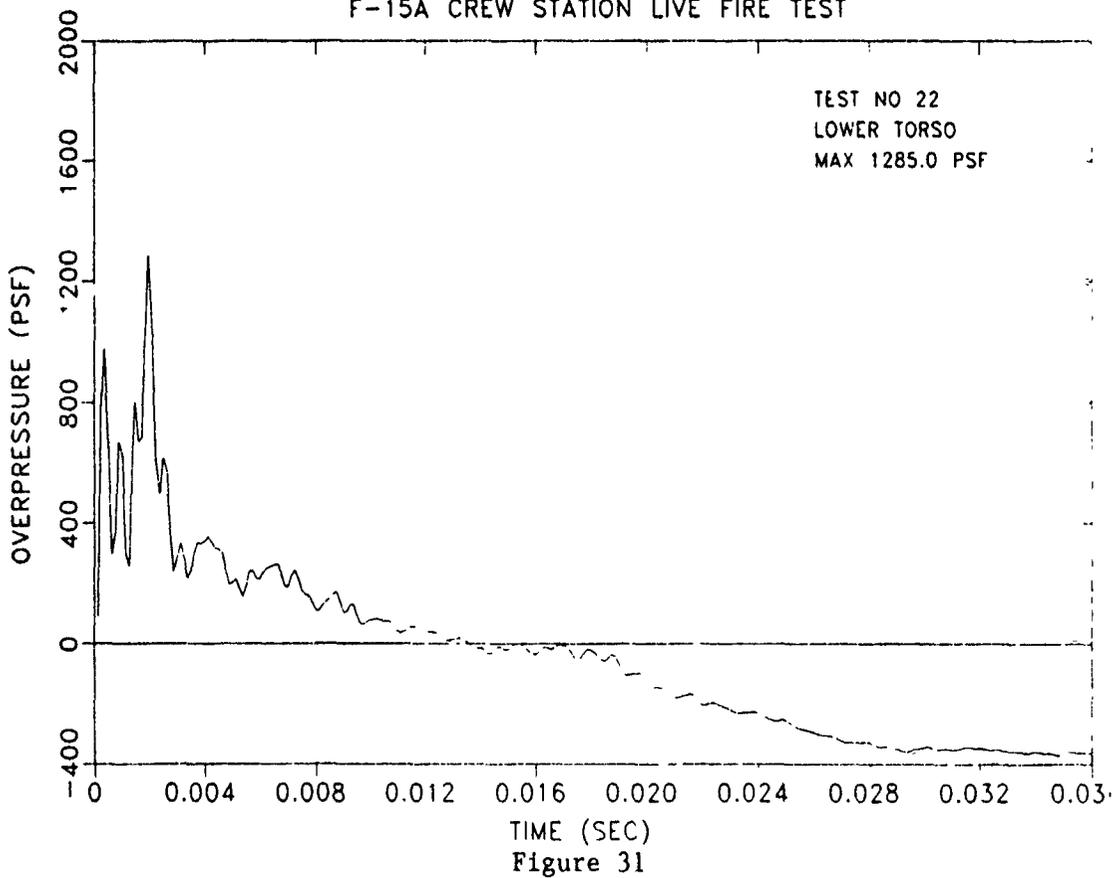


Figure 30

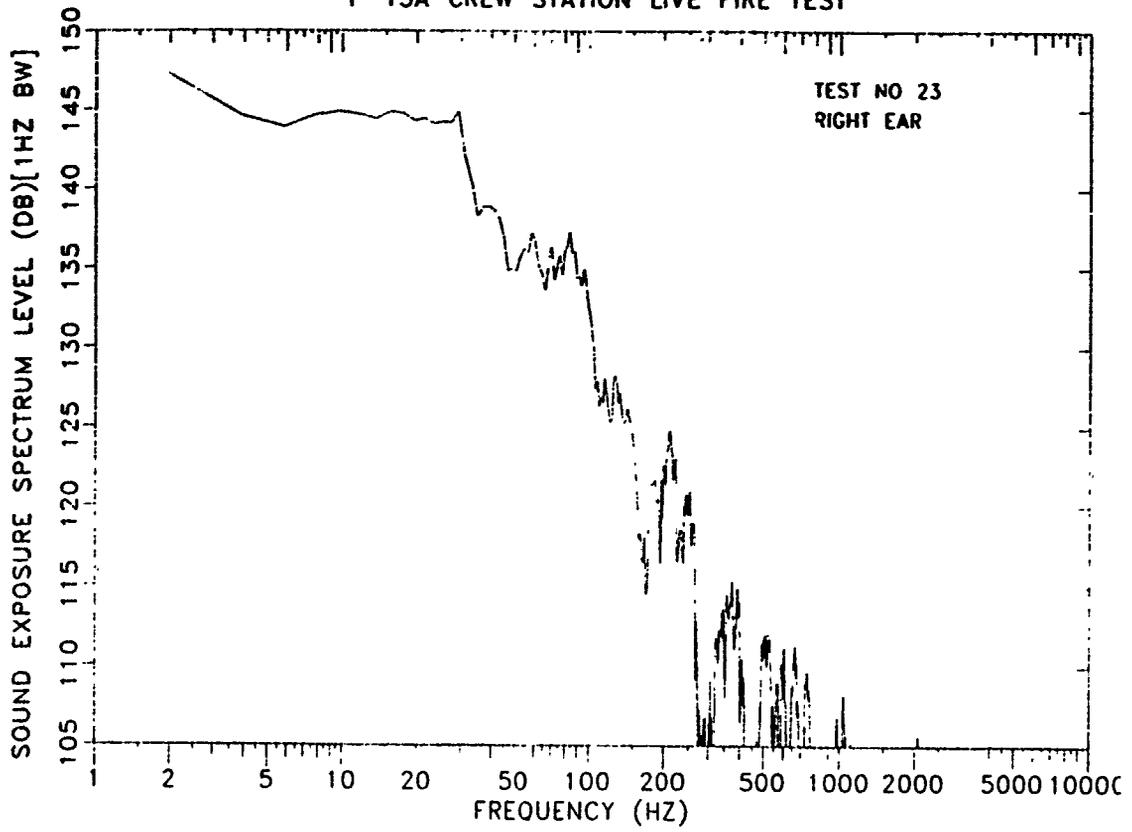
F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



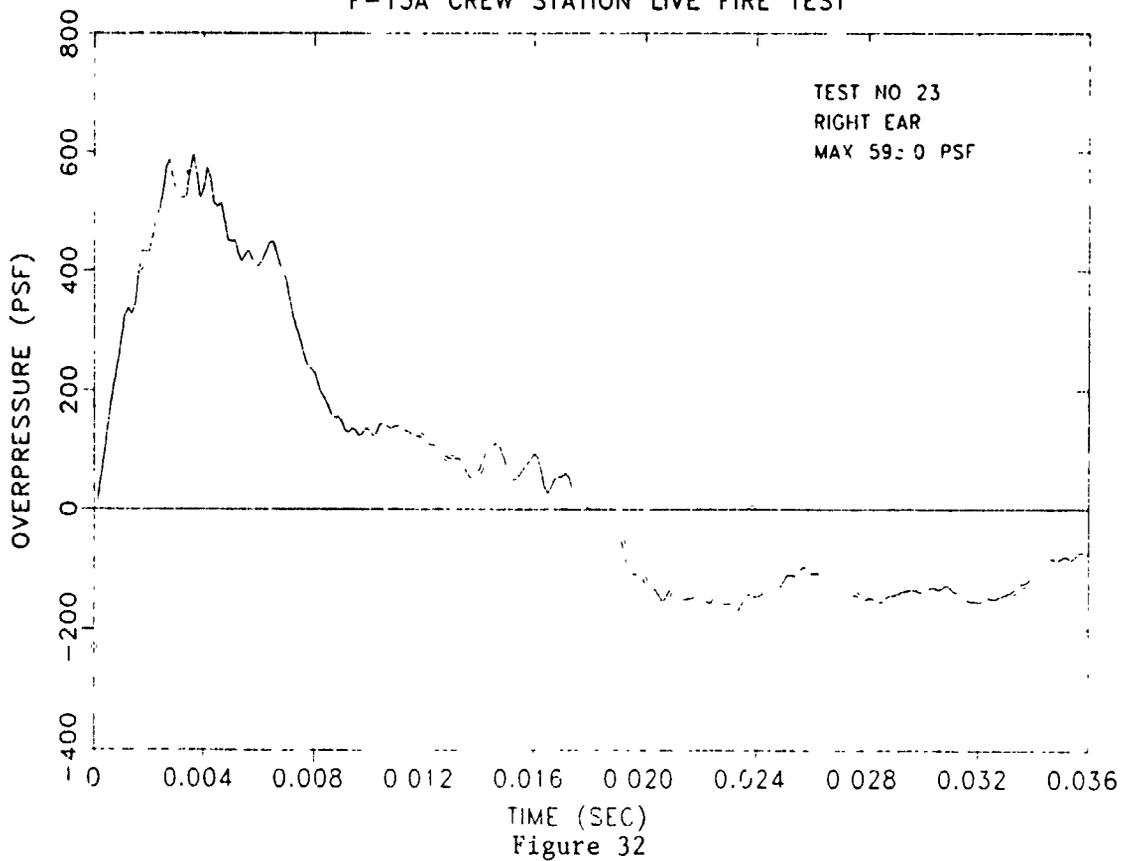
F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



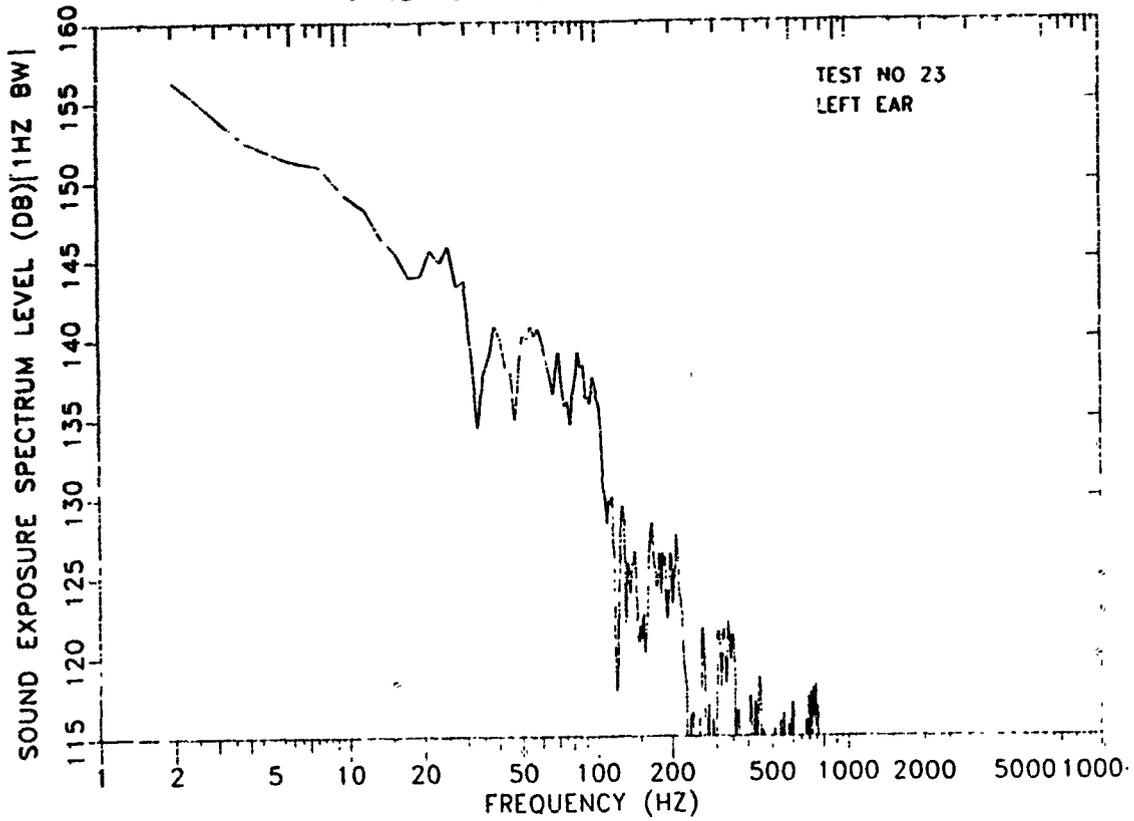
F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



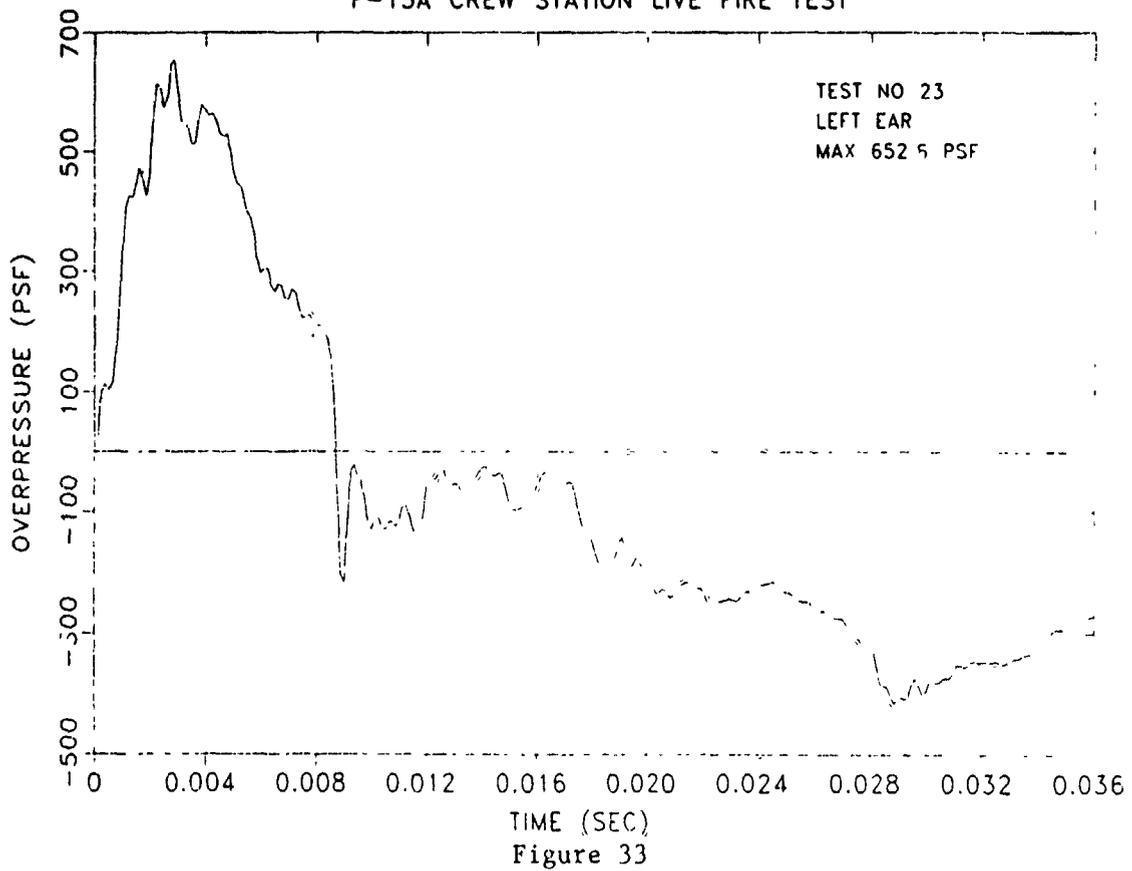
F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



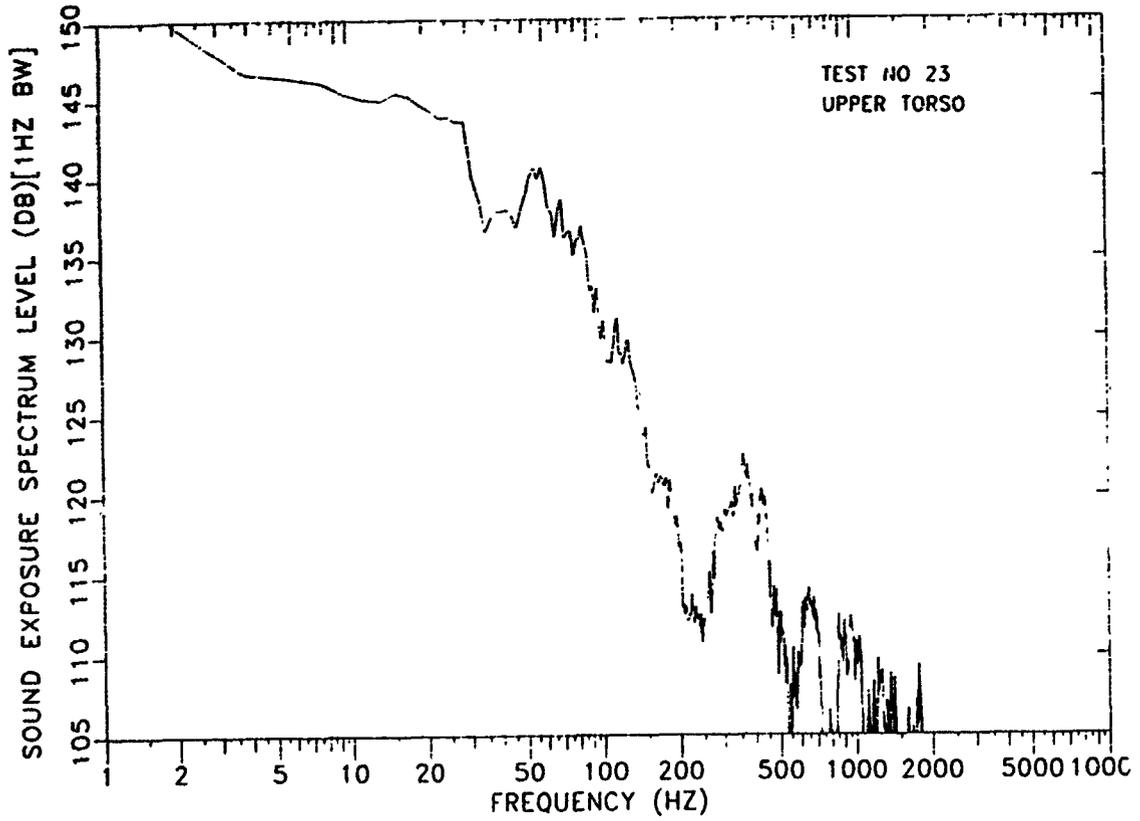
F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



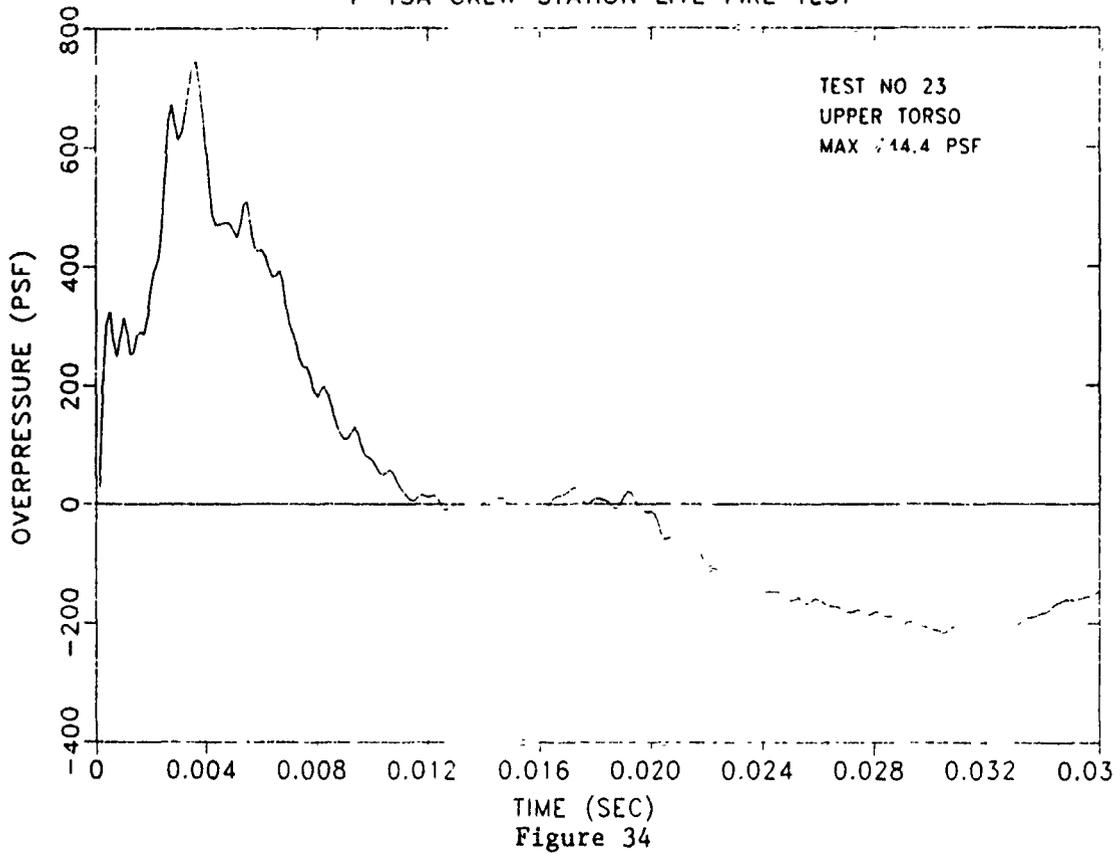
F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



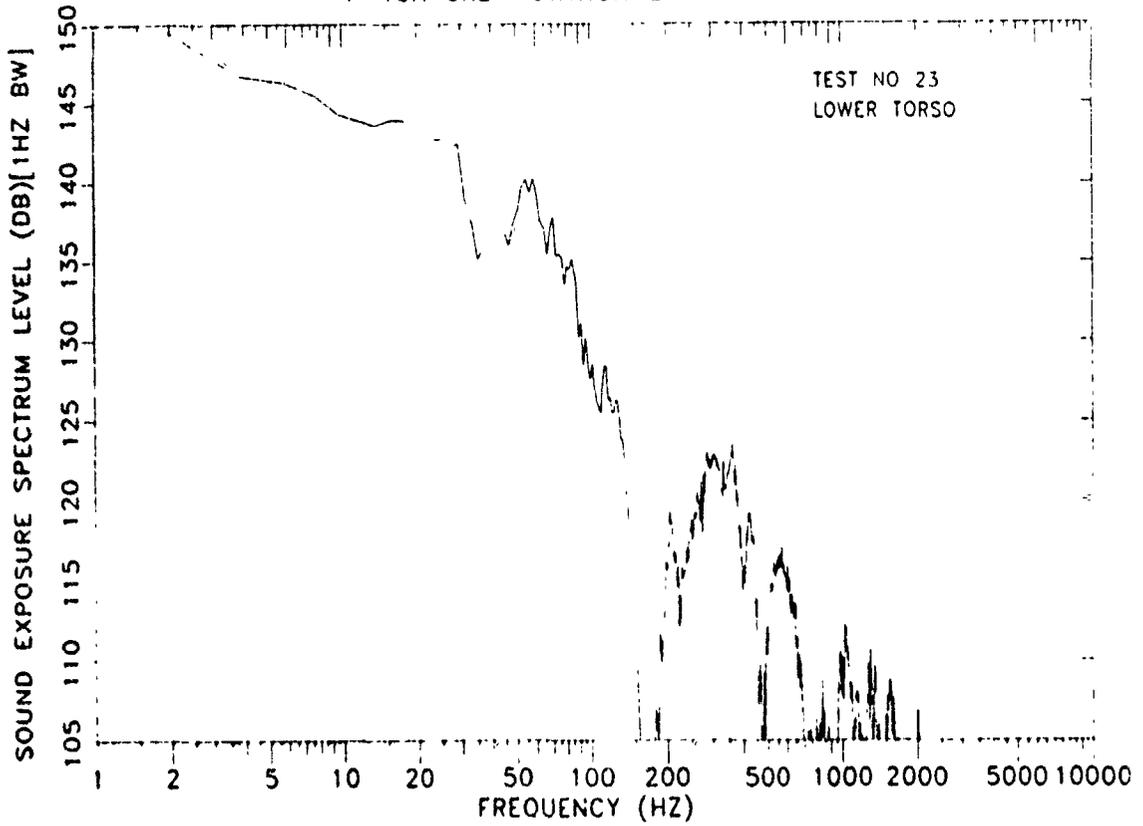
F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



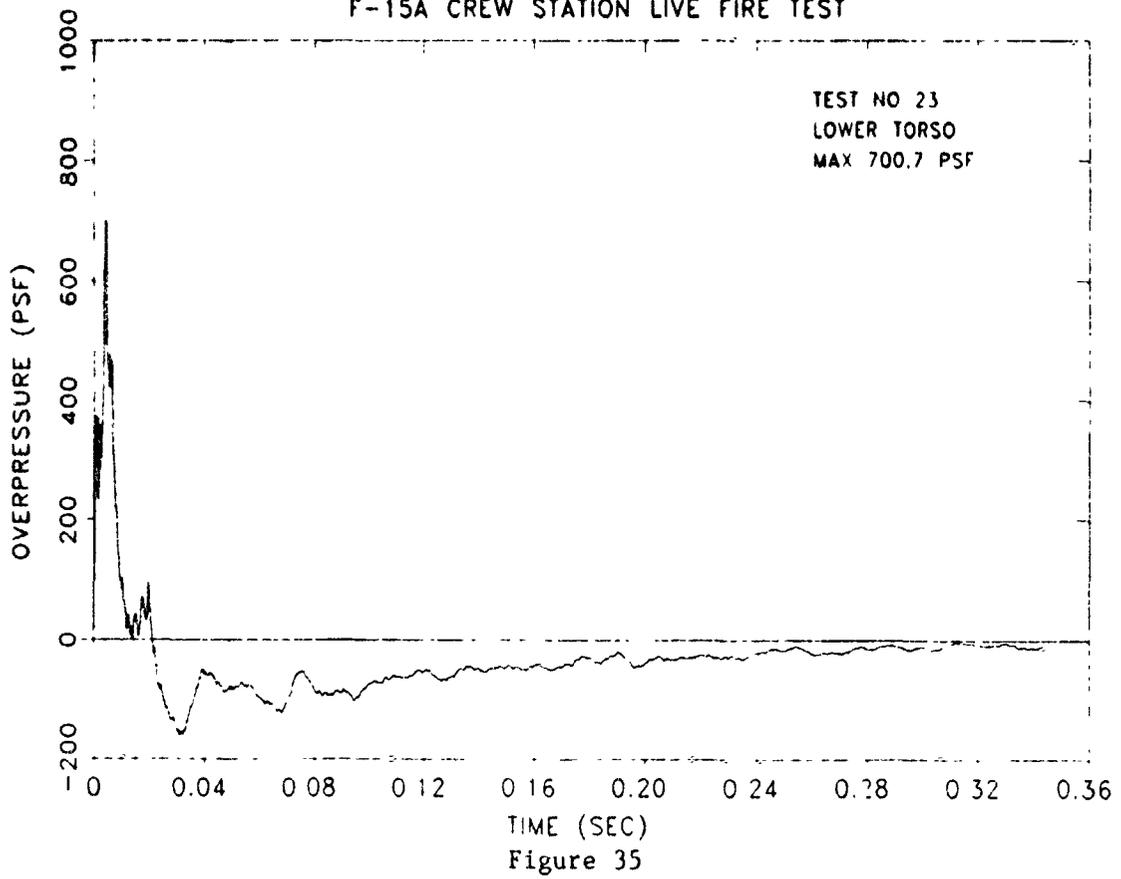
F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



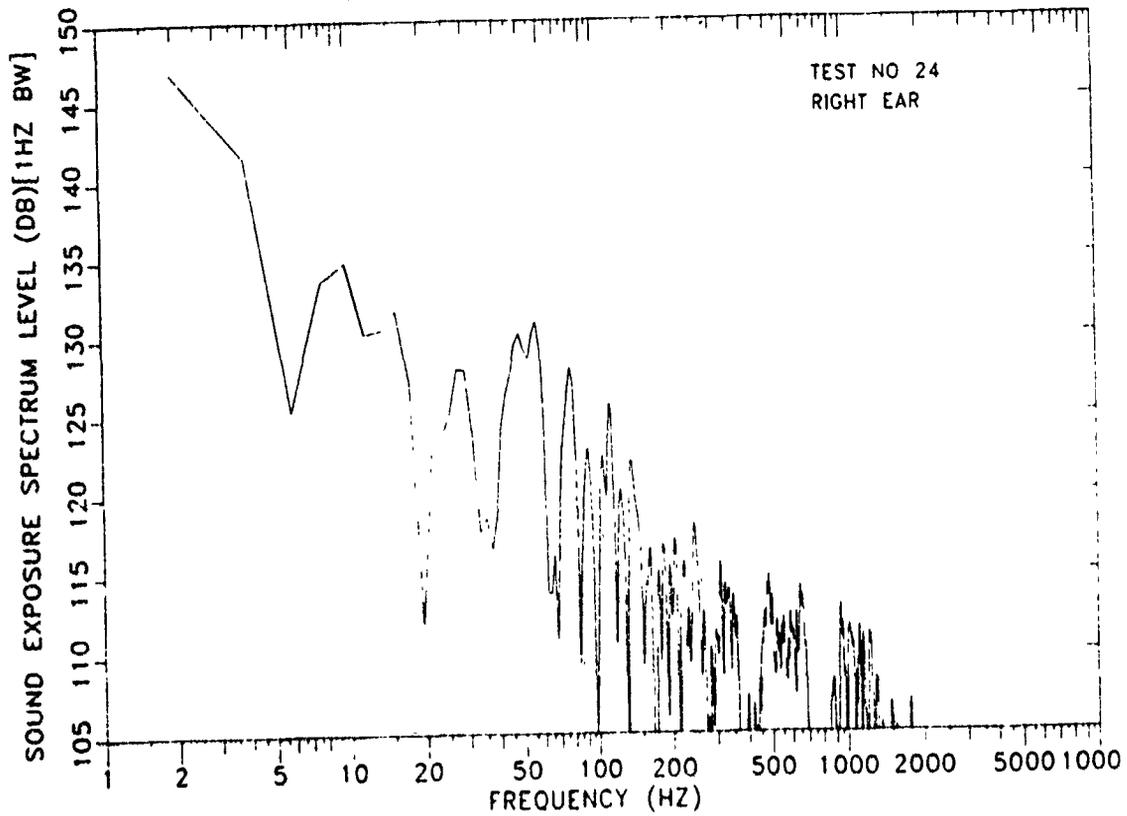
F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



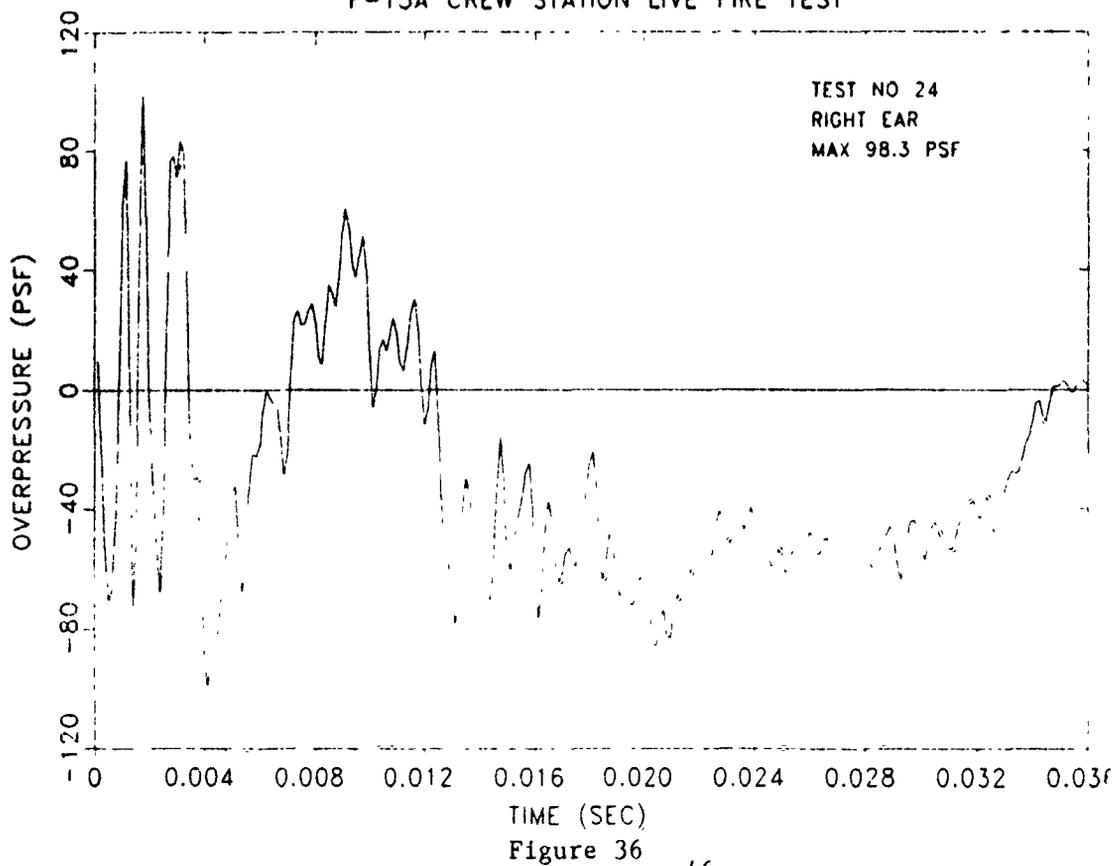
F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



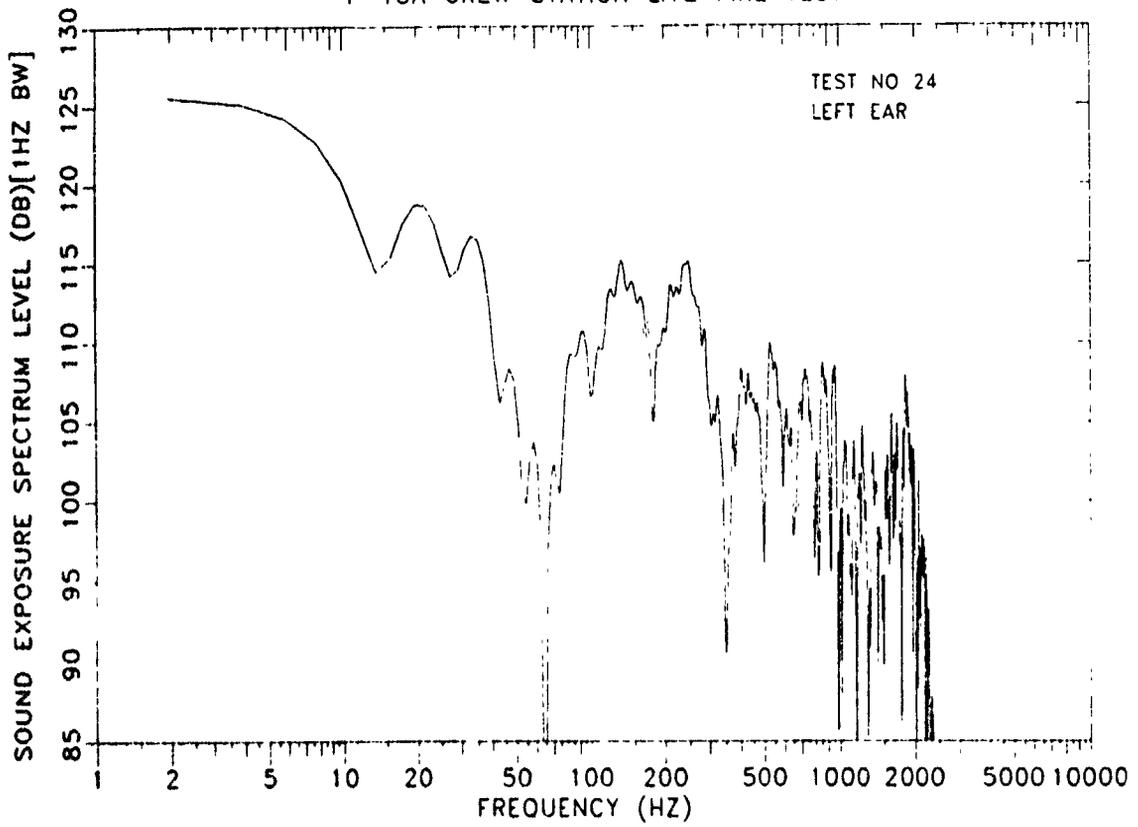
F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST

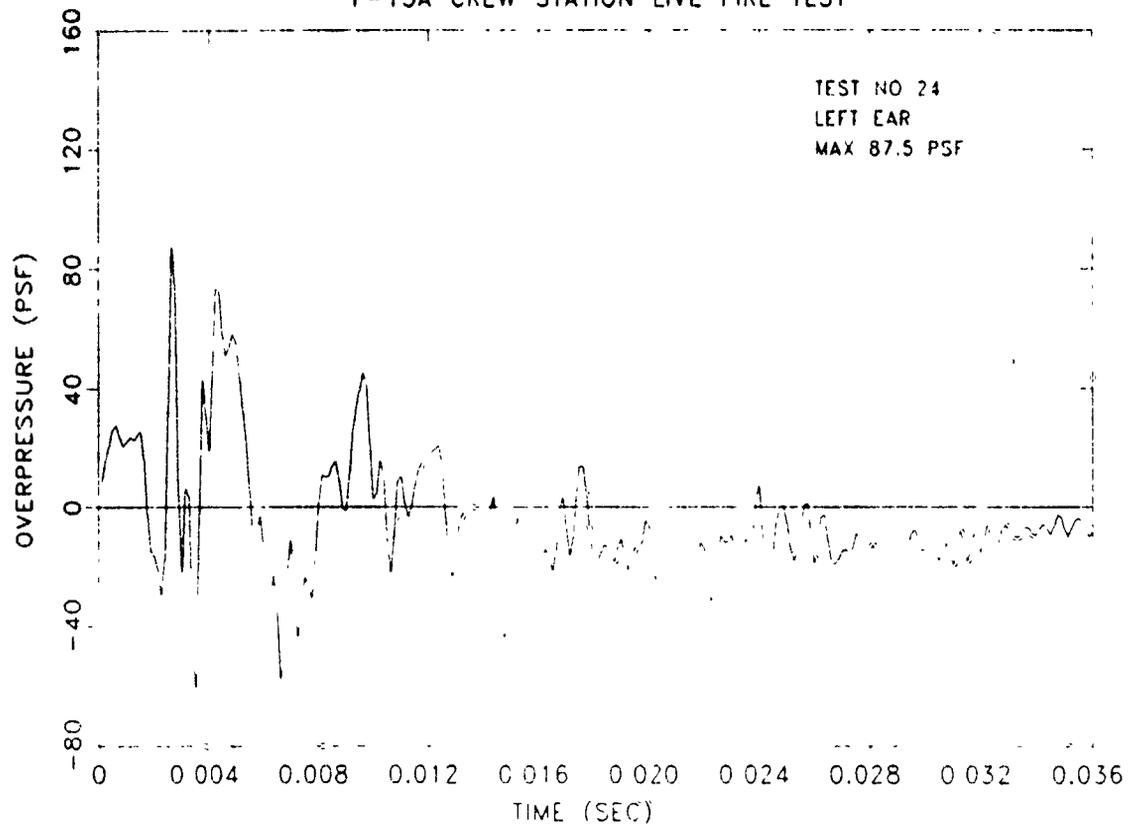
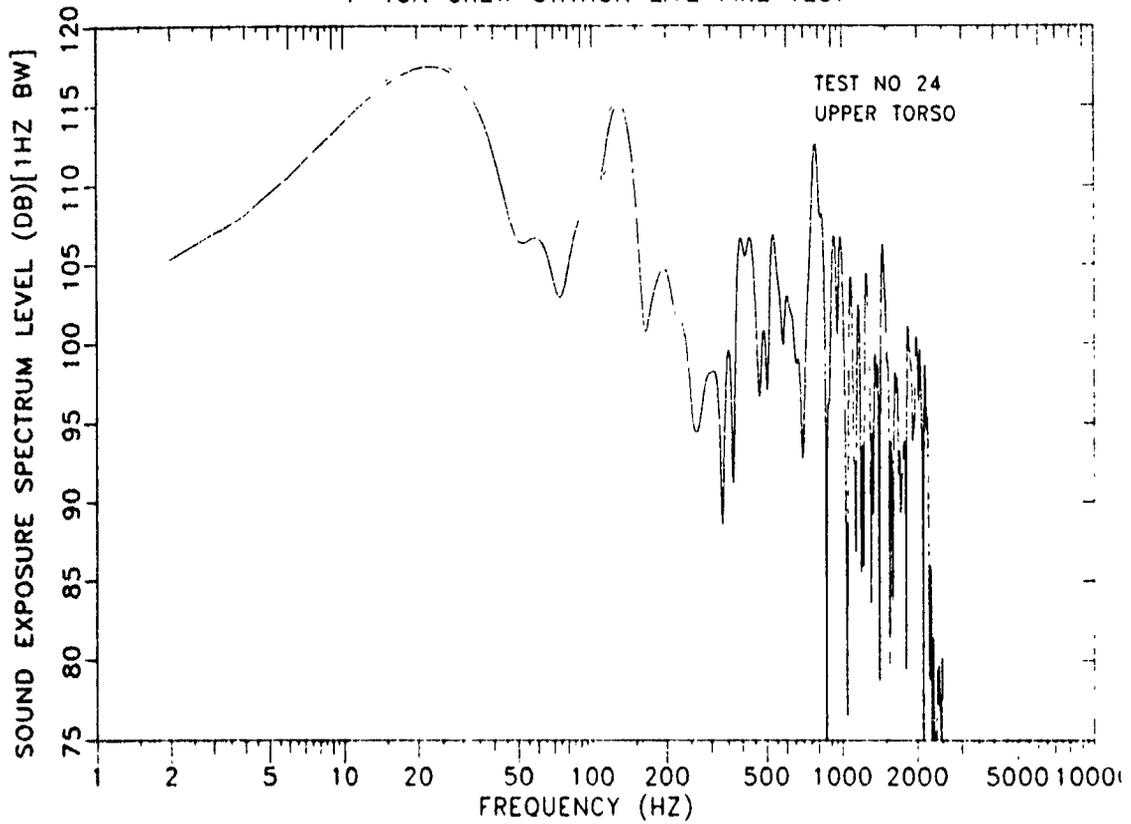
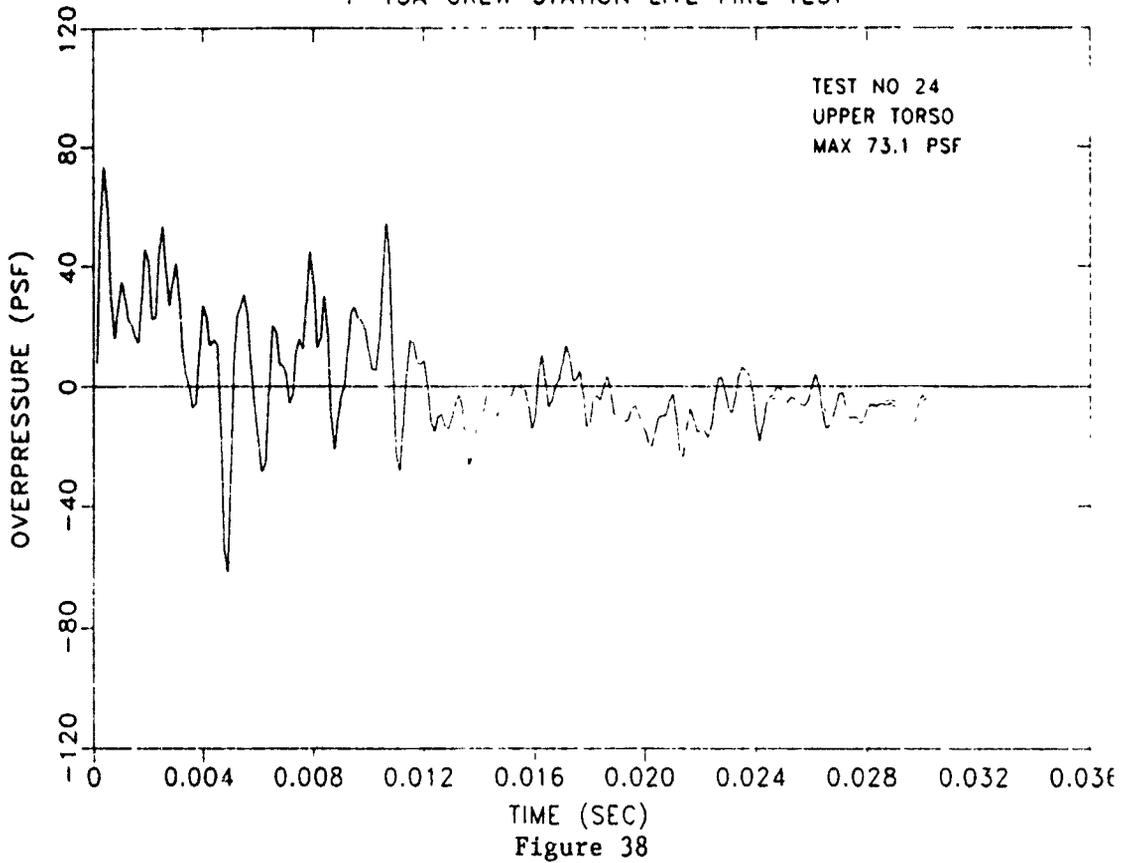


Figure 37

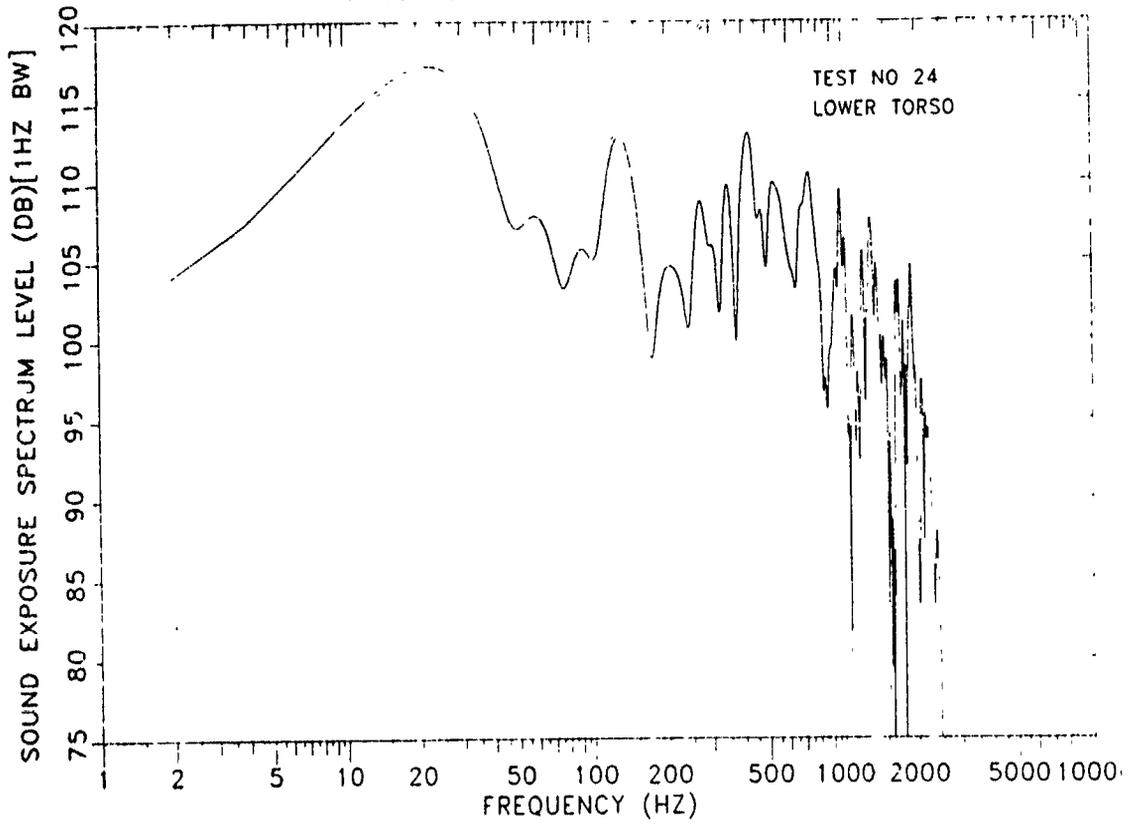
F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST

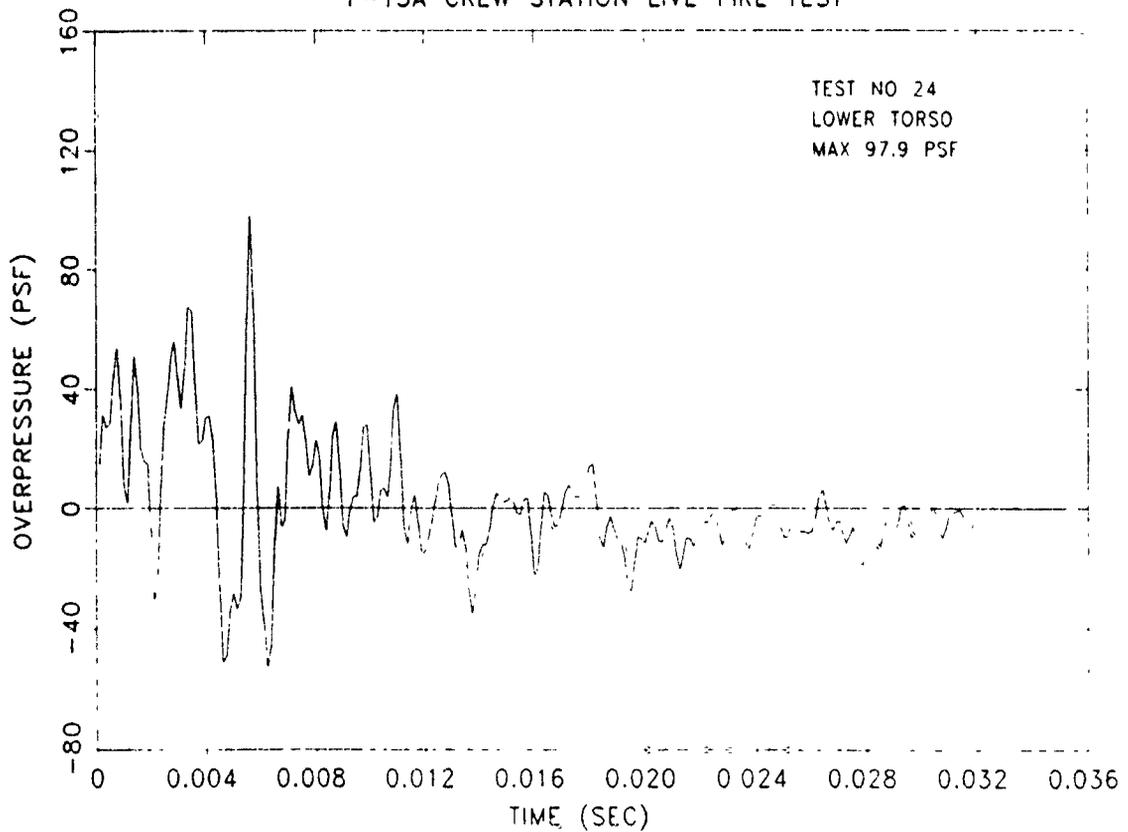
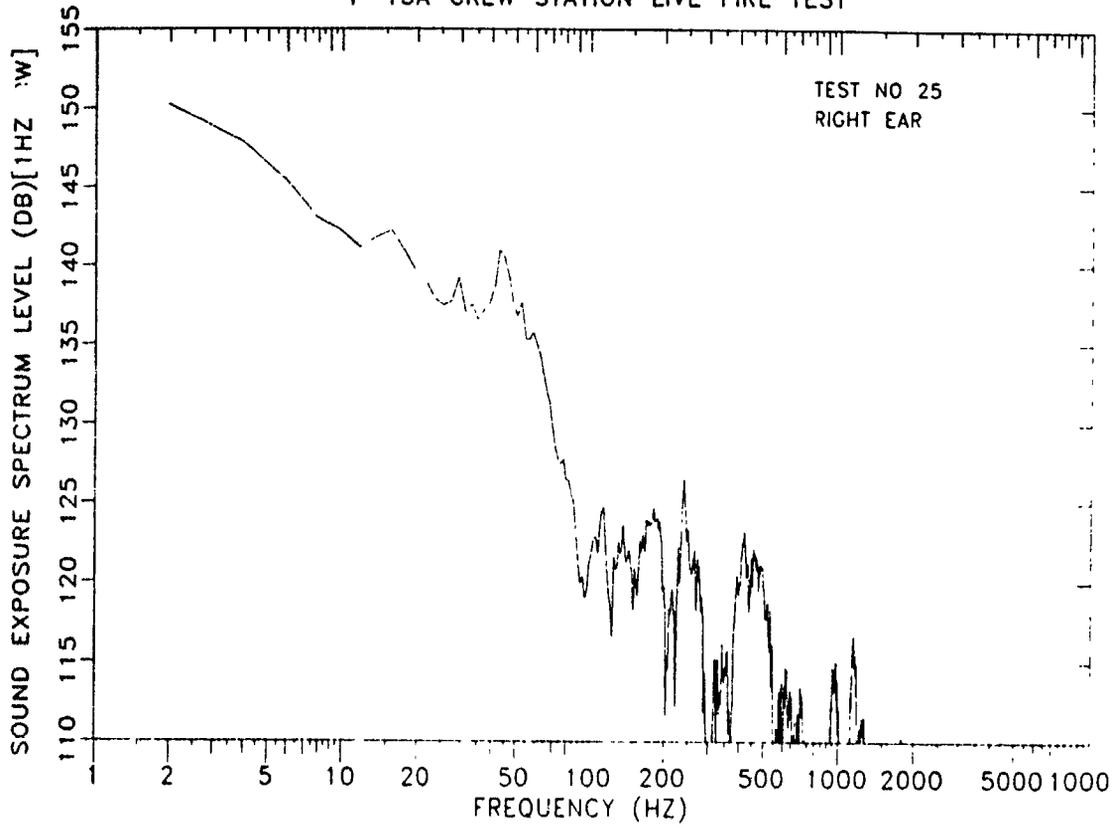
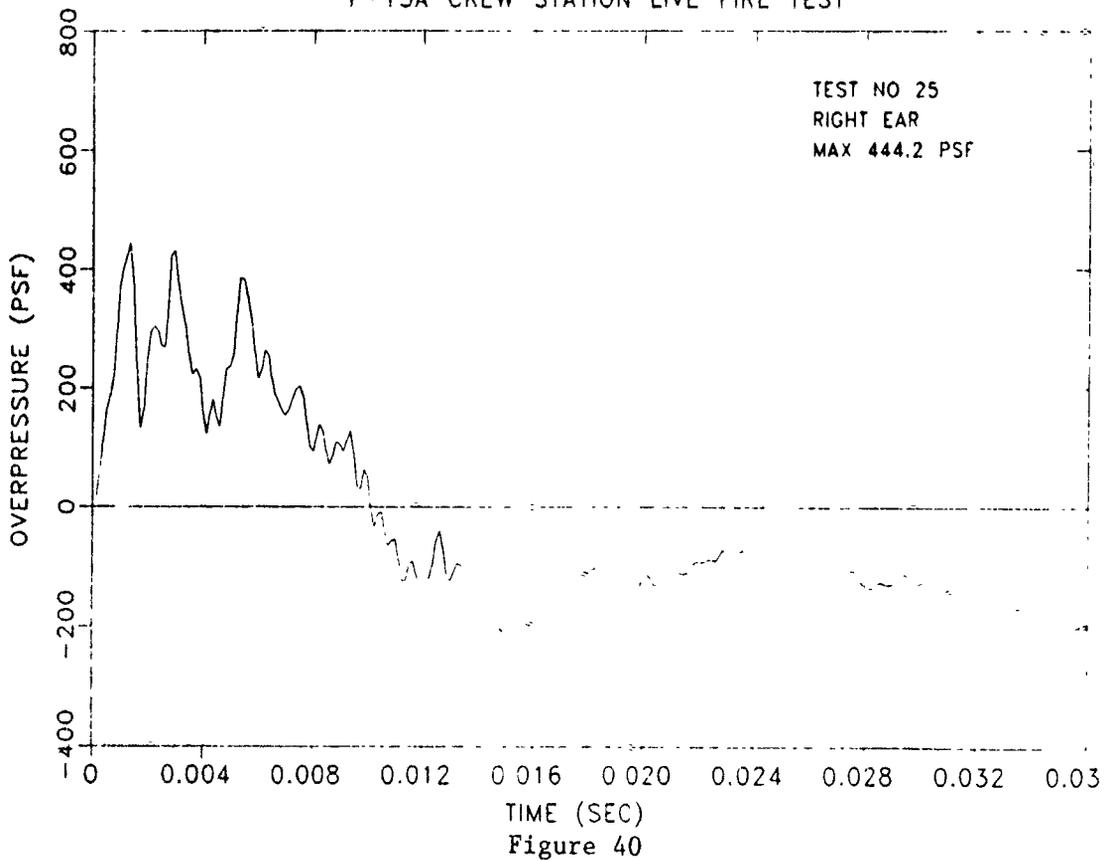


Figure 39

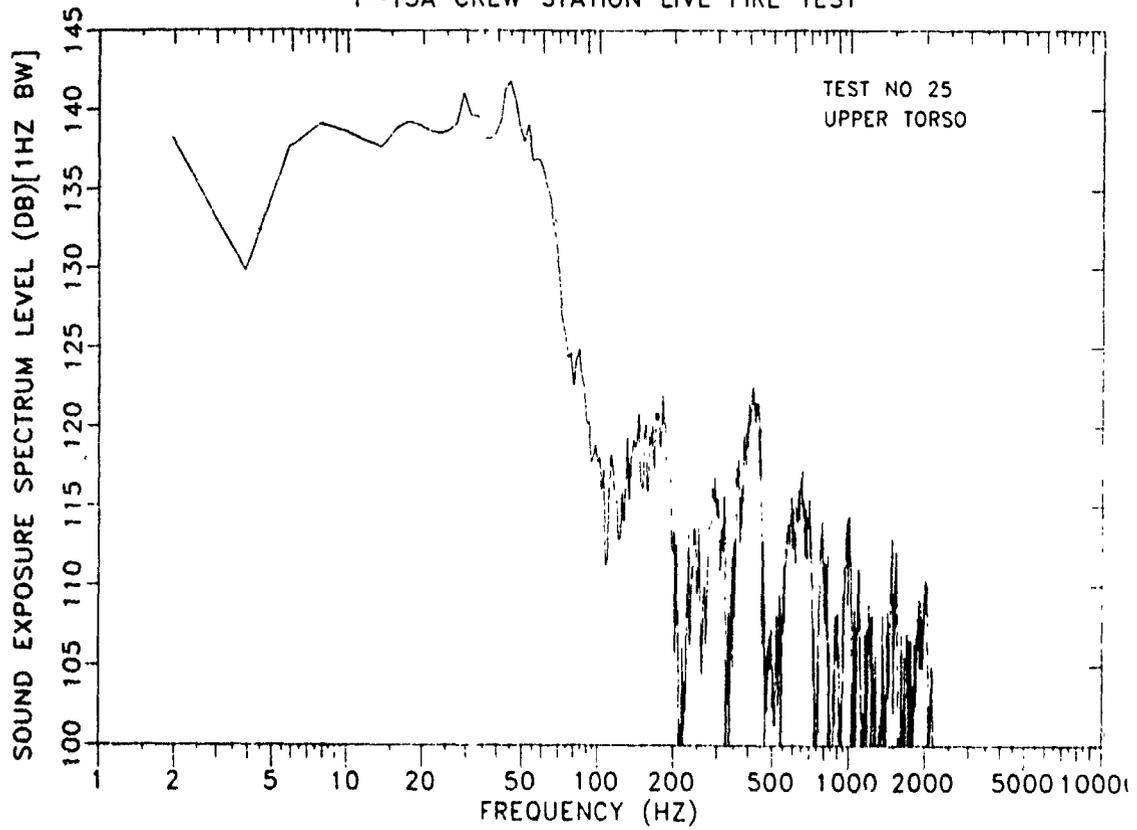
F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST

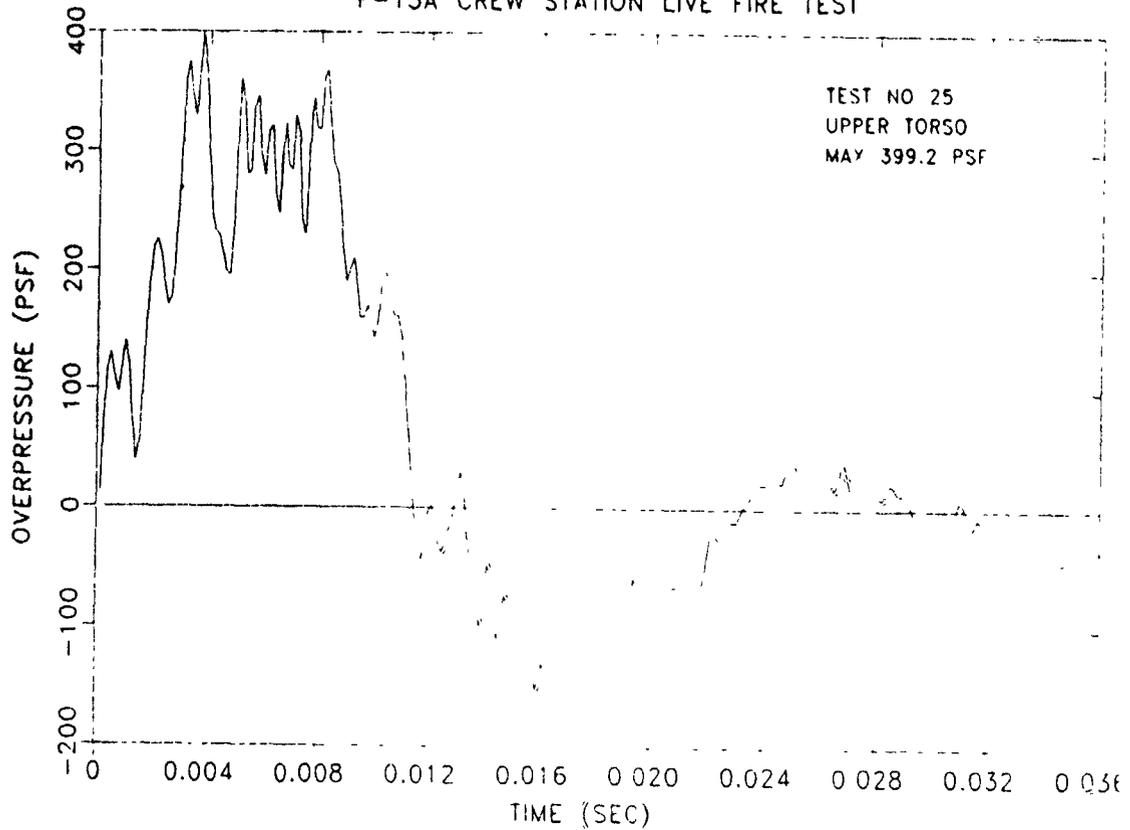
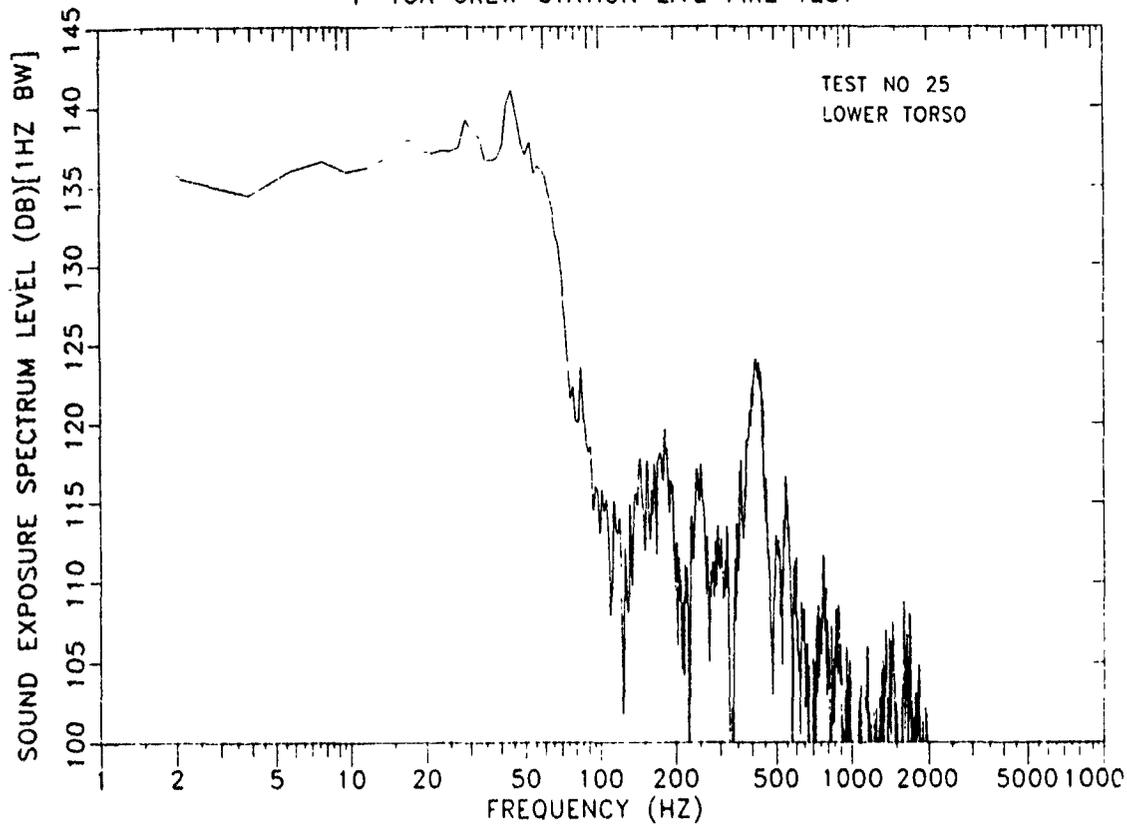


Figure 41

F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST

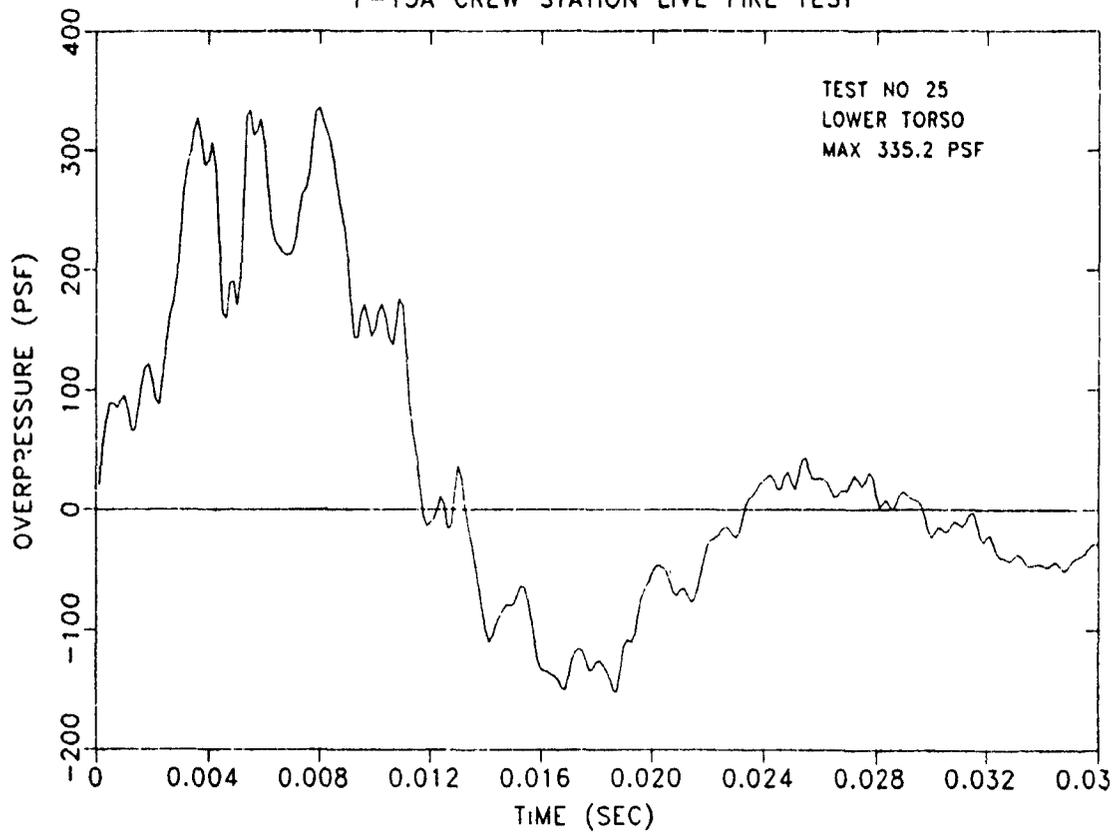
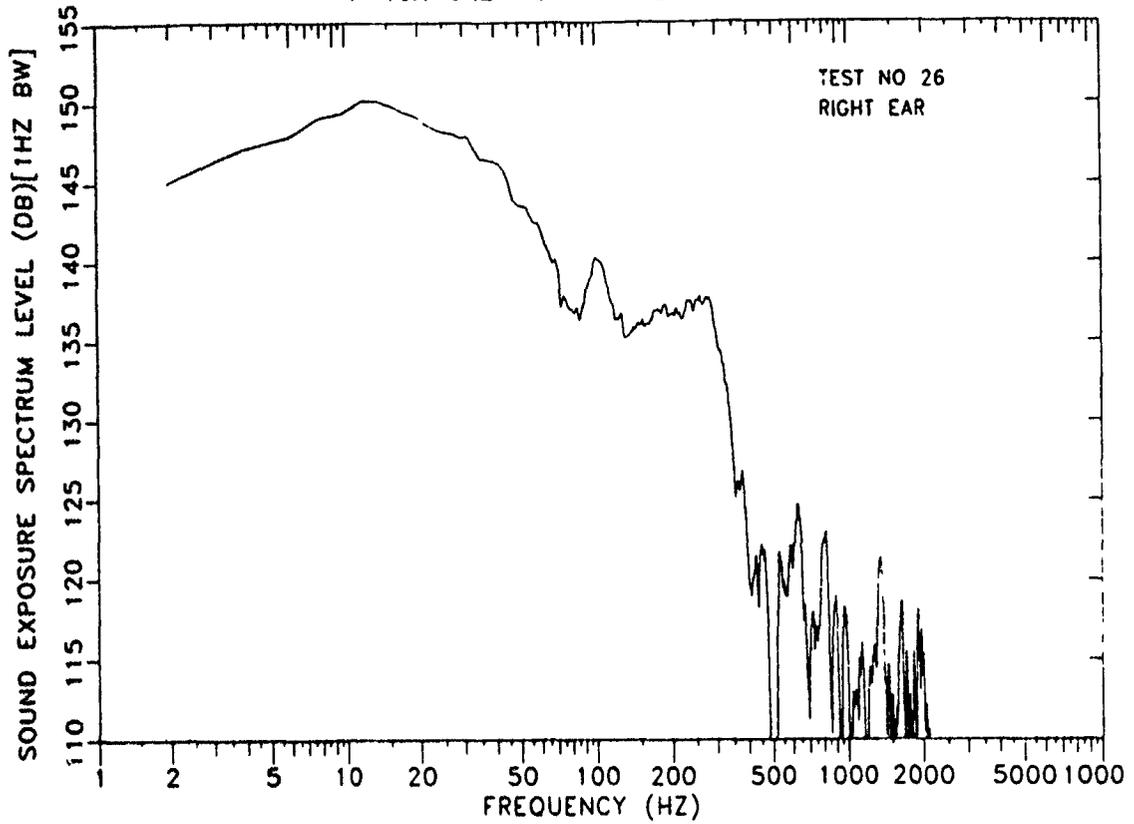
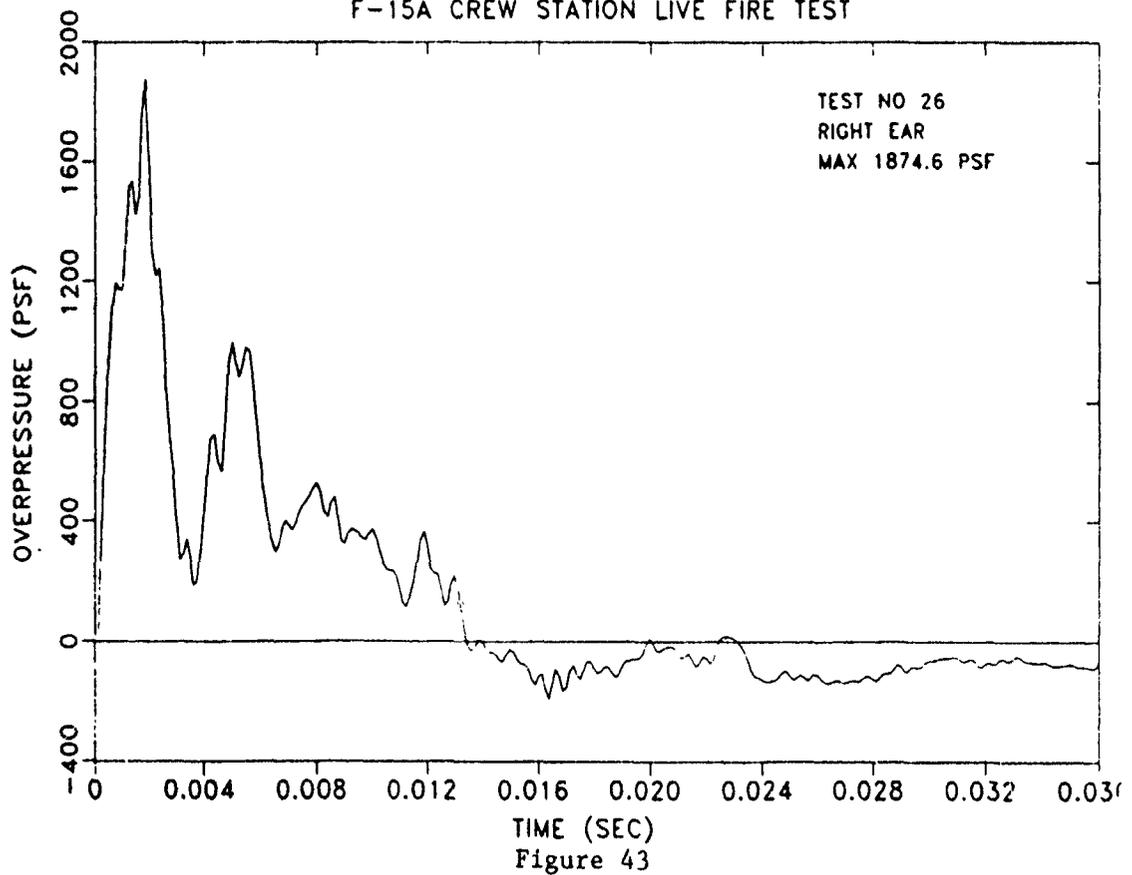


Figure 42

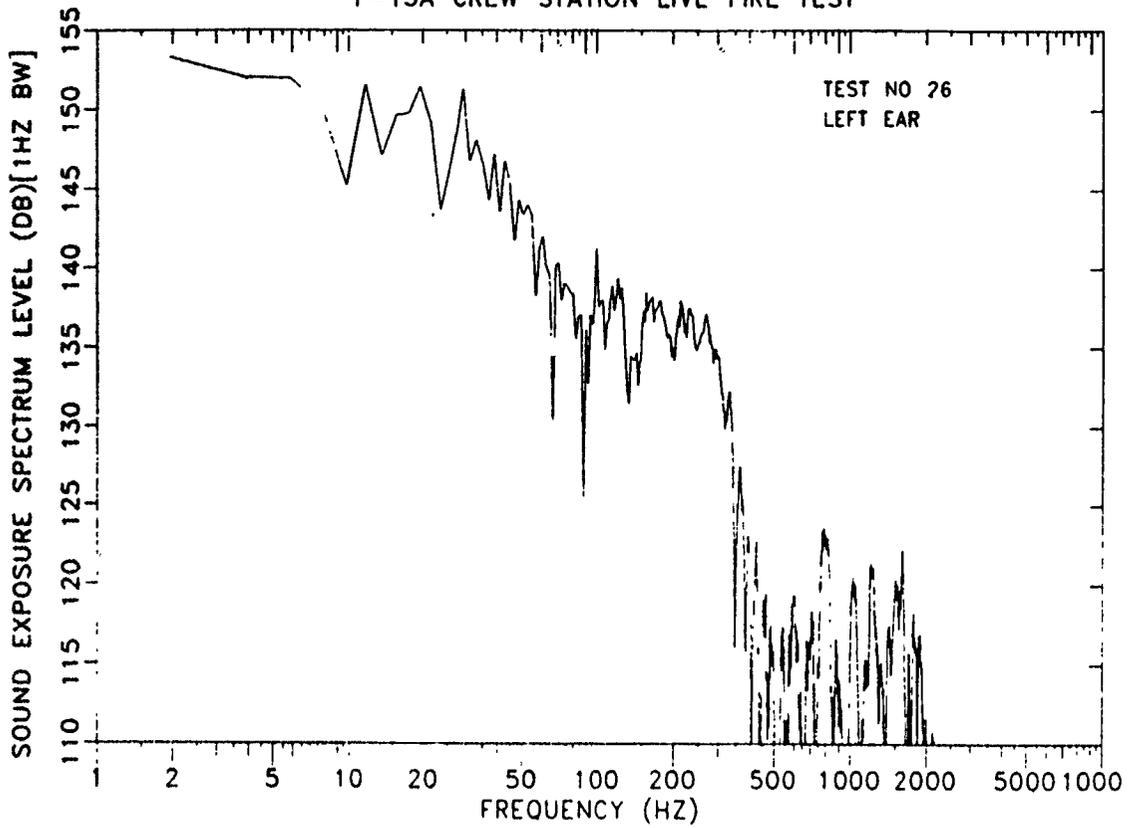
F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST

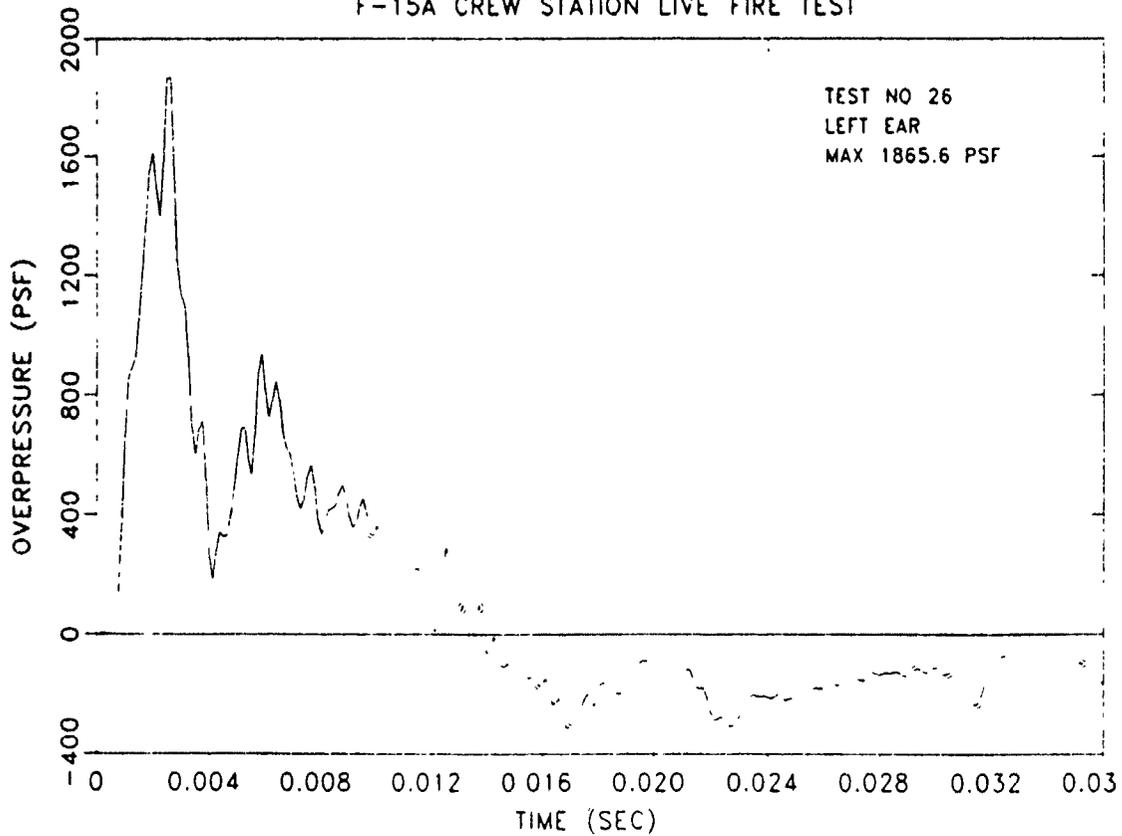
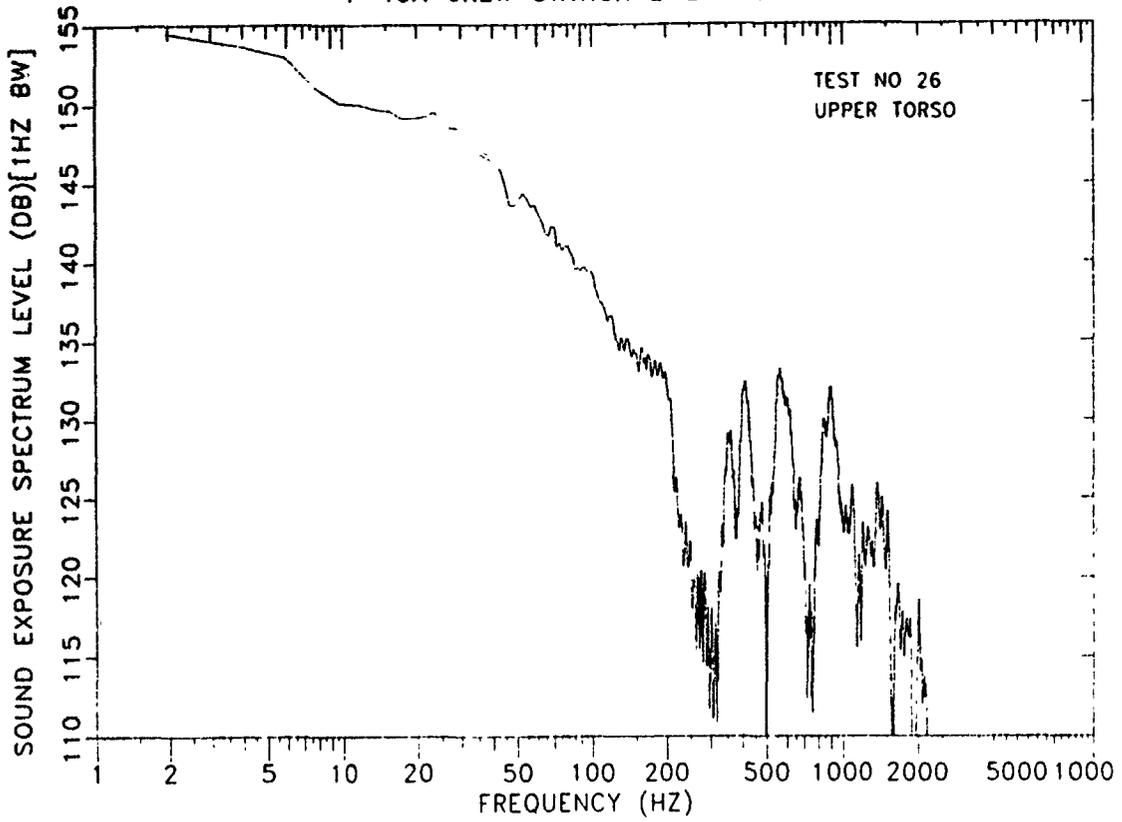


Figure 44

F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST

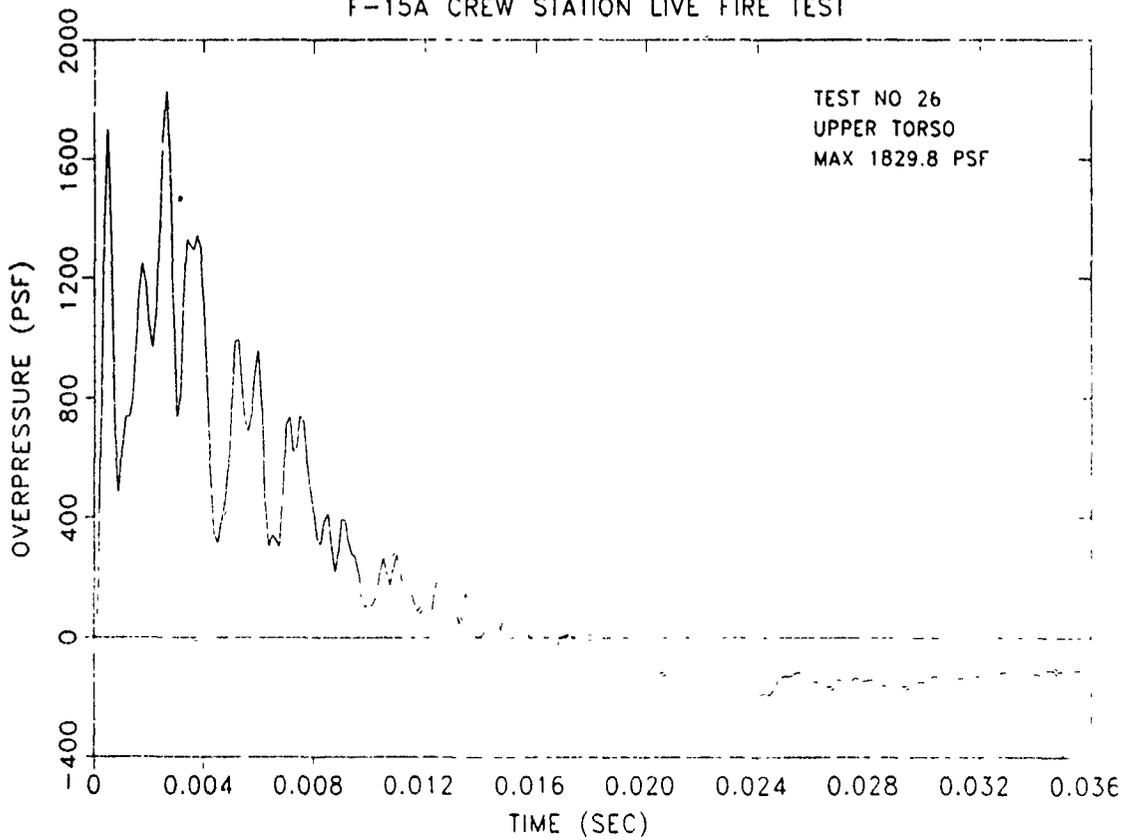
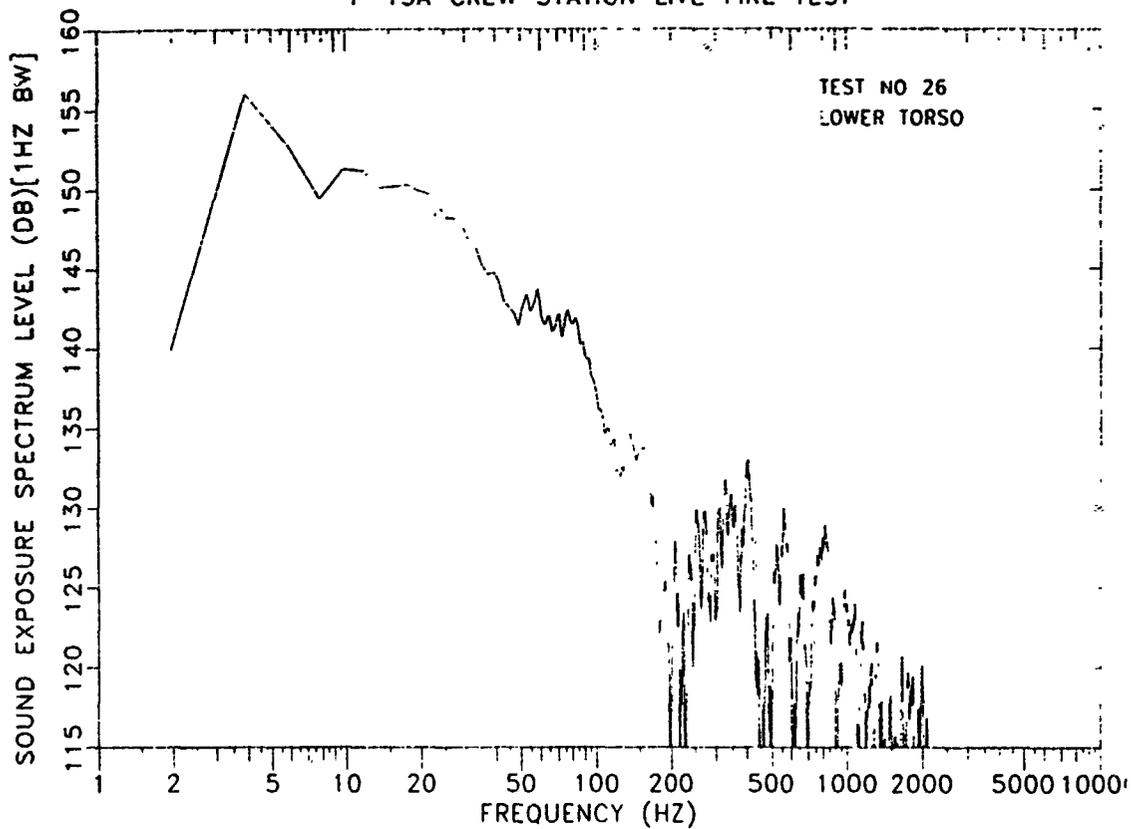


Figure 45

F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST

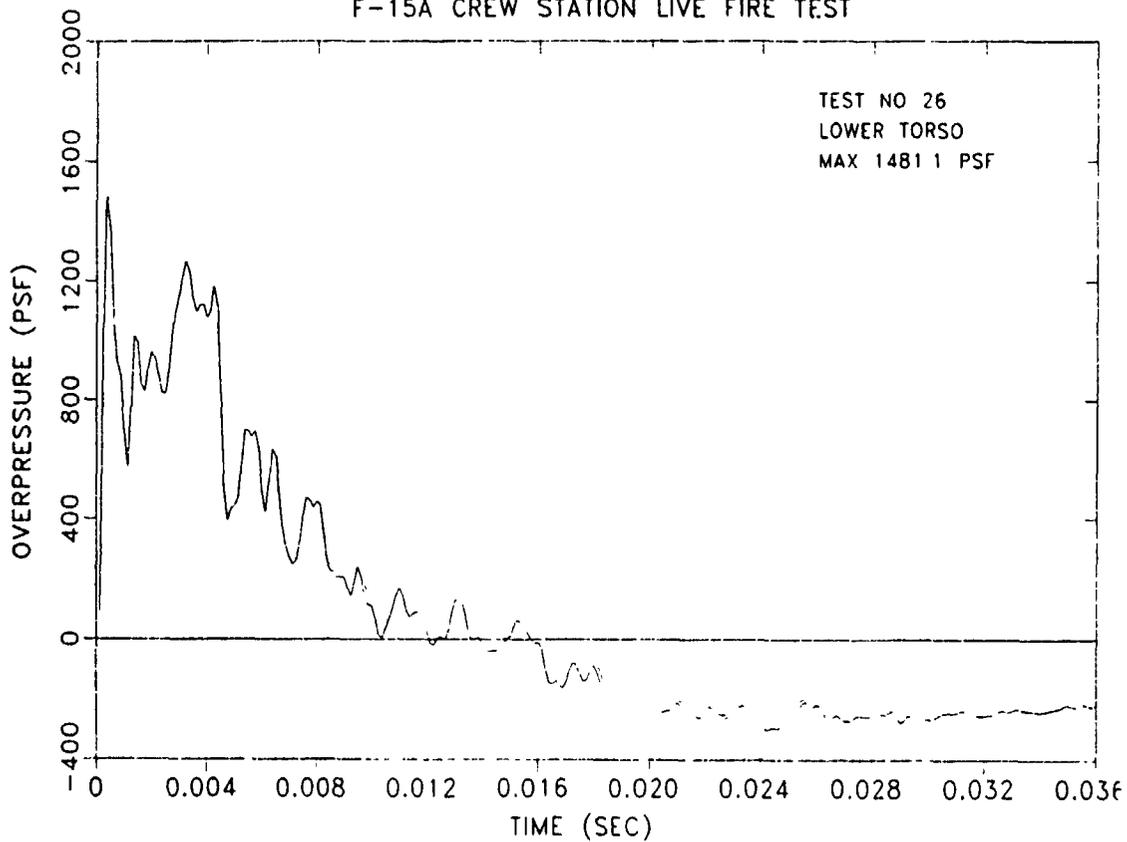
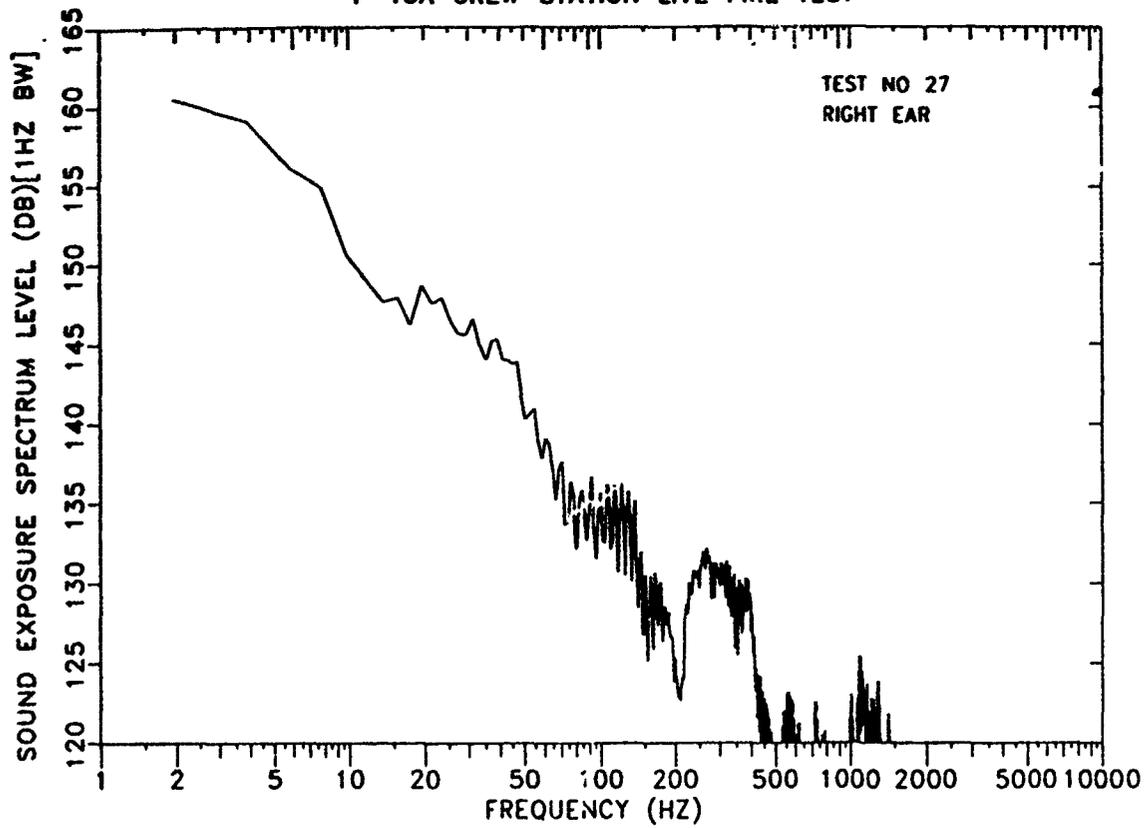


Figure 46

F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST

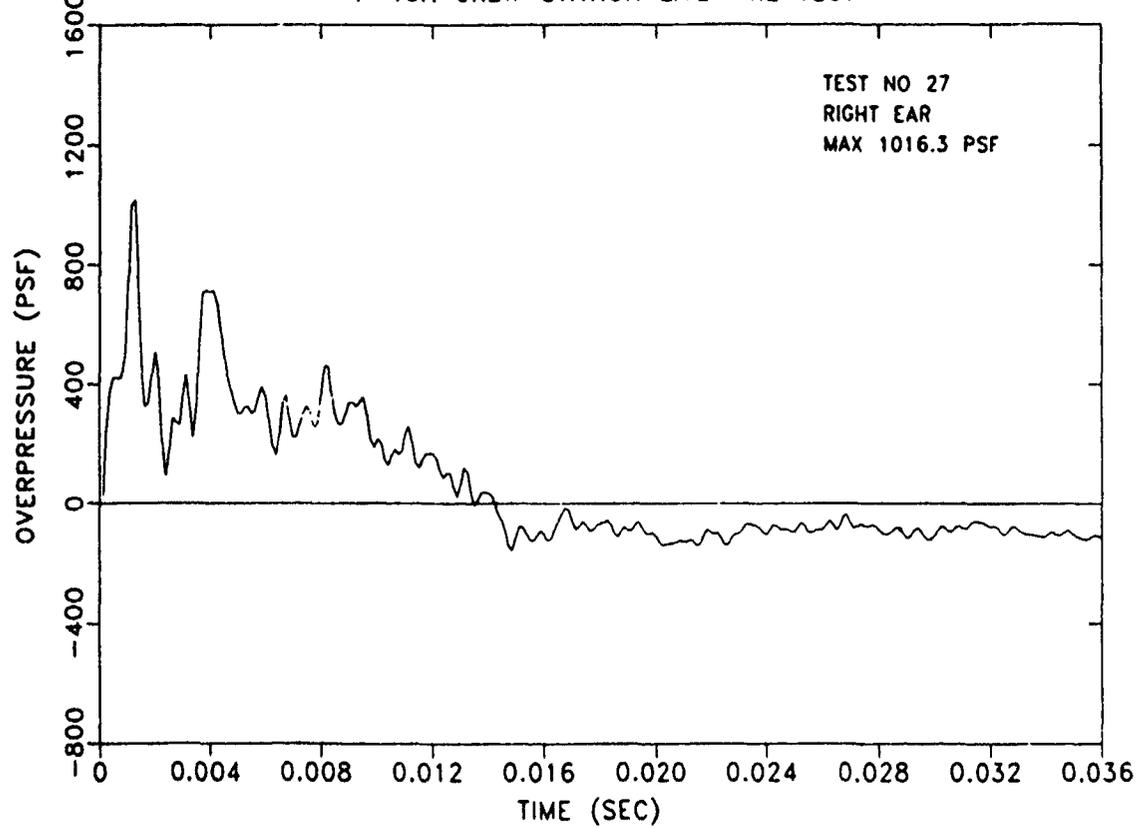
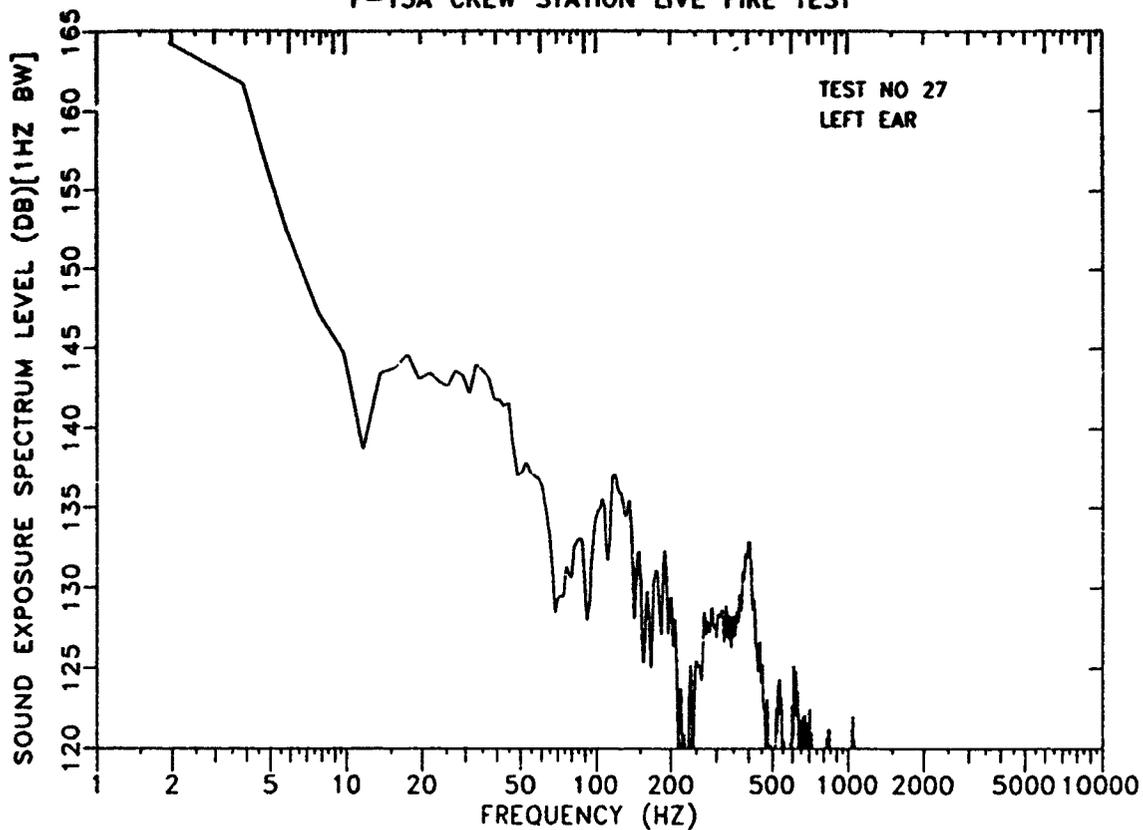
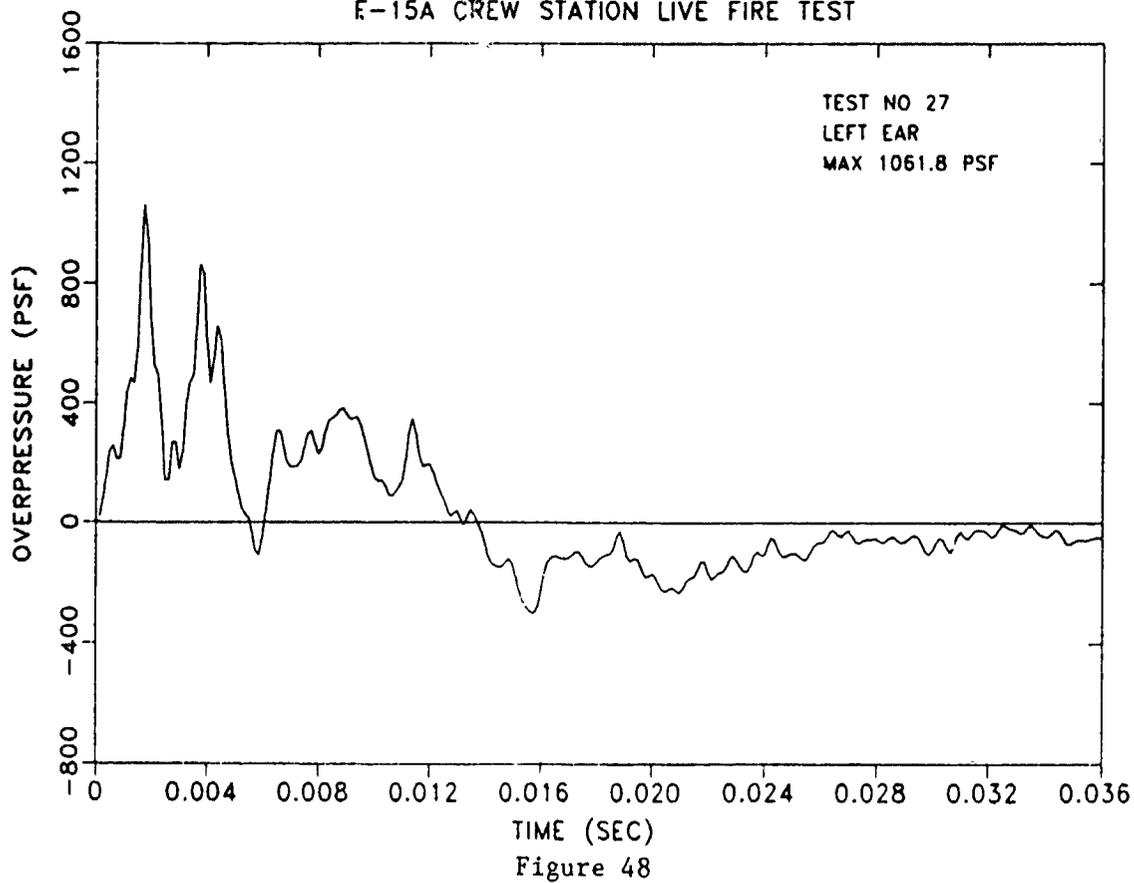


Figure 47

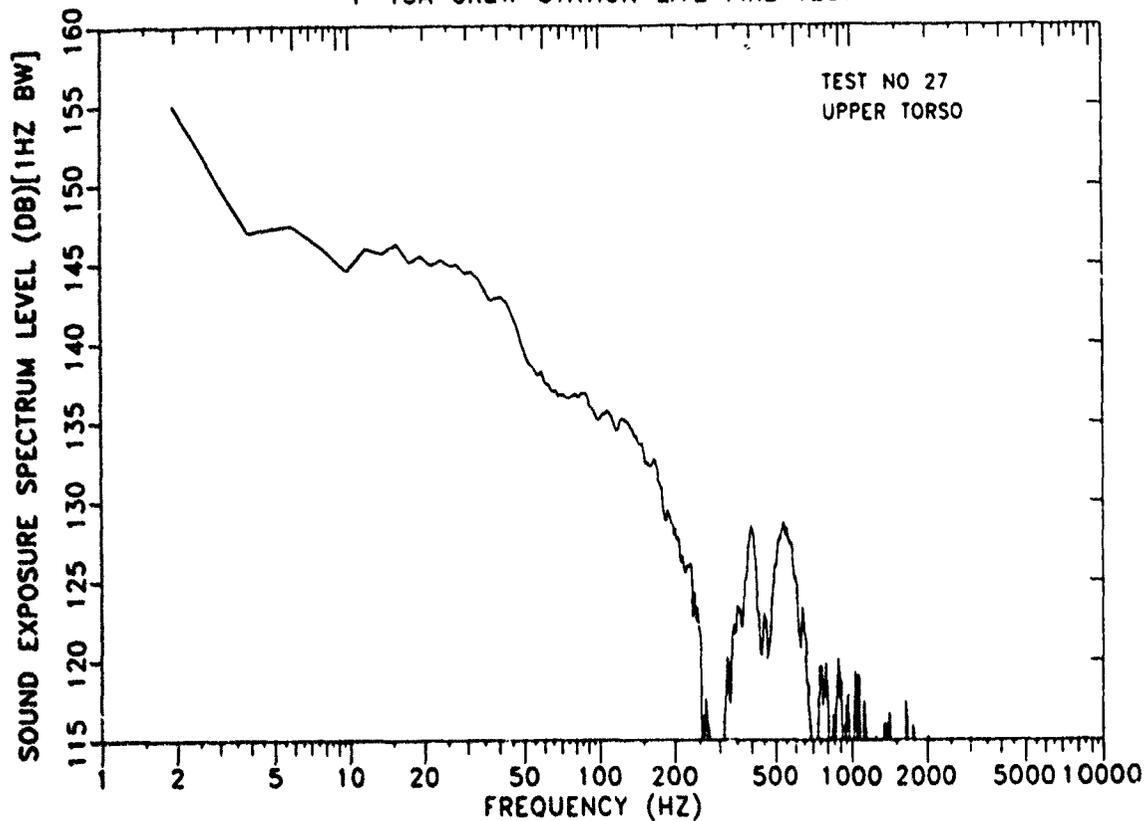
F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST

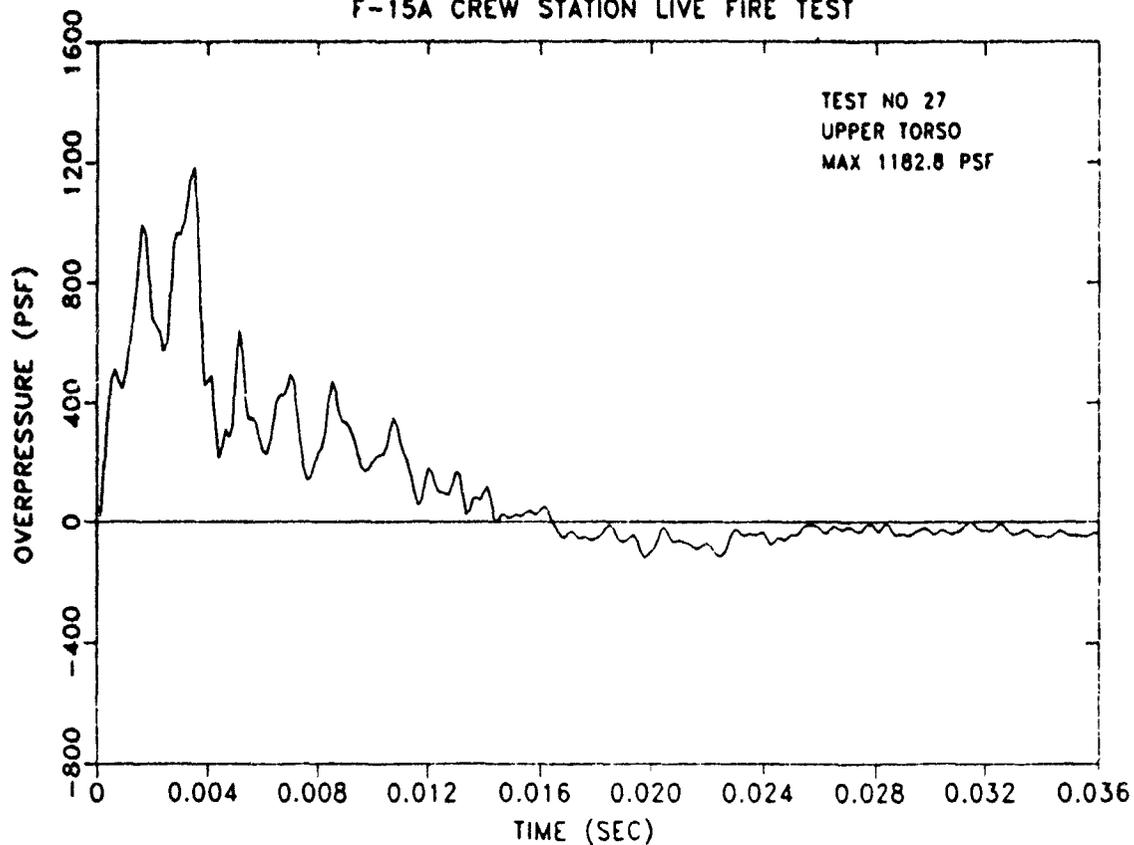
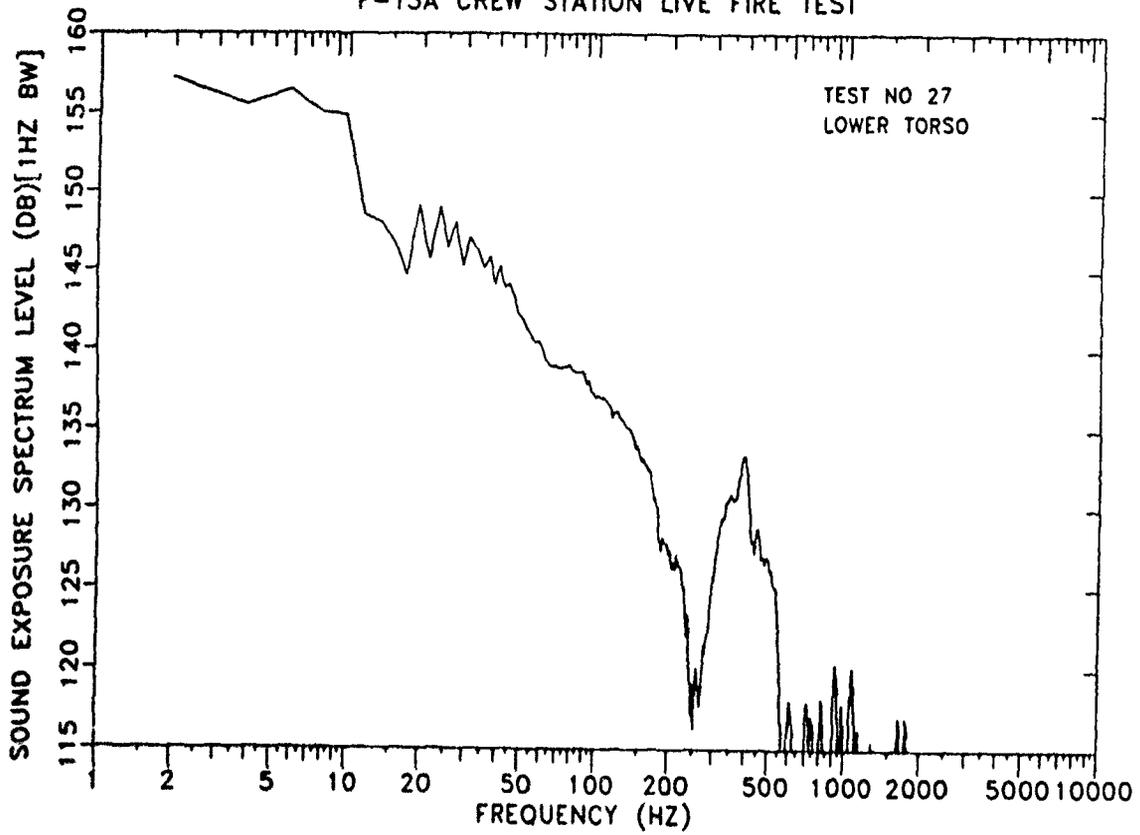


Figure 49

F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST



F-15A CREW STATION LIVE FIRE TEST

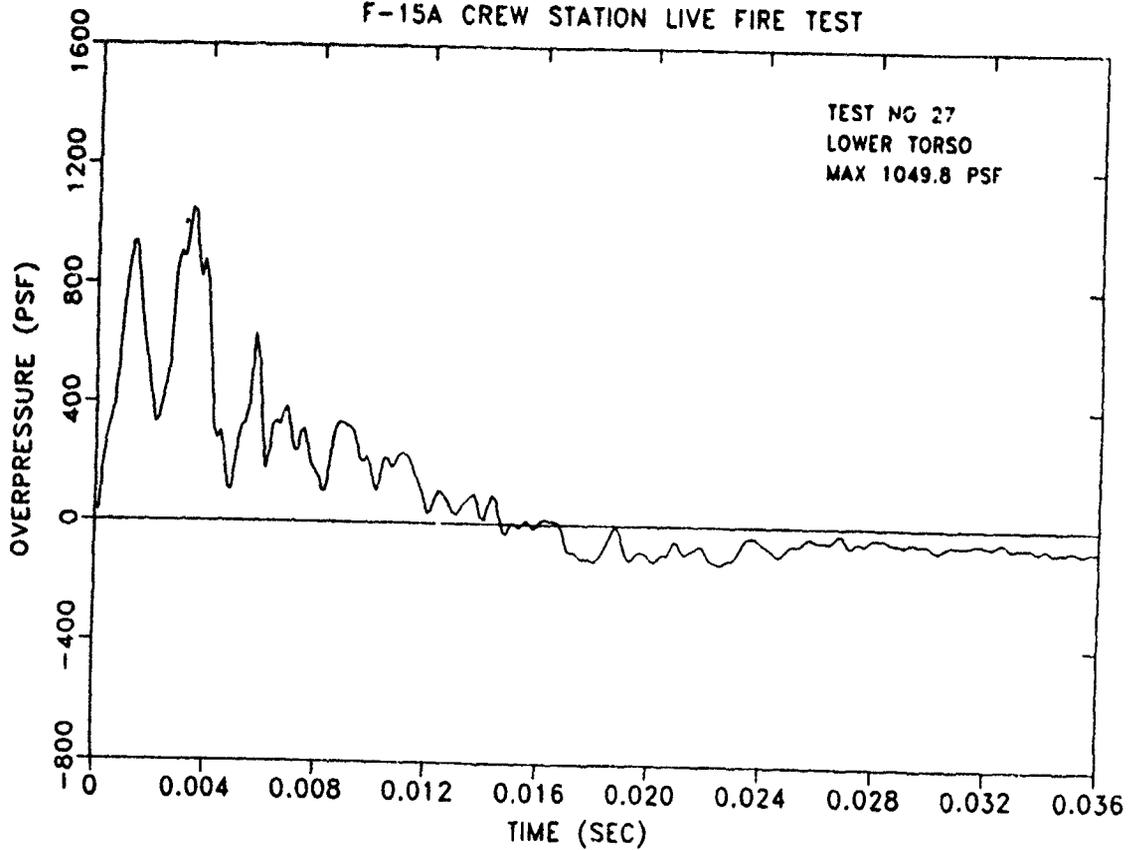


Figure 50

## REFERENCES

1. Lee, R.A., et al, Boom Event Analyzer Recorder (Bear): System Description, AAMRL-TR-89-035, August 1989
2. von Gierke, H.E., Effects of Sonic Boom on People: Review and Outlook, AMRL-TR-65-195, May 1966
3. Hazardous Noise Exposure, AF Regulation 161-35, 9 April 1982
4. Johnson, D.L., Department of the Army, Sandia Laboratories, private communication, July 1991.