



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

3D MARINE DIVISION (-) (REIN), FMF
UNIT 35801
FPO AP 96602-5801

IN REPLY REFER TO:
DivO 6260.2D
SURG
12 Apr 93

DIVISION ORDER 6260.2D

From: Commanding General
To: Distribution List

Subj: HEARING CONSERVATION PROGRAM (HCP)

Ref: (a) DoDINST 6055.3
(b) SECNAVINST 5100.10E
(c) MCO 6260.1D
(d) OPNAVINST 5100.23C
(e) NAVMEDCOMINST 6250.5
(f) MCO 5100.8E
(g) ANSI Specifications of 1969 (NOTAL)

Encl: (1 Occupational Exposure Registry

1. Purpose. To provide guidance for establishment and implementation of a uniform and effective HCP for Marine Corps and Navy personnel assigned to the 3d Marine Division. The basic objective is to prevent occupational noise related hearing loss among personnel assigned to areas of high-intensity noise.

2. Cancellation. DivO 6260.2C

3. Background. Commanding officers are responsible for hearing conservation programs within their commands. Reference (a), establishes a uniform HCP for the Department of Defense. Recognizing Occupational Safety and Health to be an inherent responsibility of each command, reference (b) requires the Chief of Naval Operations and the Commandant of the Marine Corps to establish hearing conservation programs that provide surveillance of personnel and their environments. References (c) through (f) outline the objectives, scope, responsibilities and requirements of the HCP.

4. Summary of Revision. This instruction has been reviewed and contains major changes. The major modifications are as follows:

a. Paragraph 5a. Noise monitoring and evaluation will be conducted by audiologists, industrial hygienists or other persons trained and qualified to perform such tasks (such as certified work place monitors).

b. Paragraph 5b. All personnel shall be measured by qualified medical personnel for earplugs which require fitting.

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c. Paragraph 5c. Failure to wear or to require the wearing of hearing protection in a required area may result in disciplinary action.

d. Paragraph 5d(3). A continuing effort is to be maintained to reinforce the HCP.

e. Paragraph 6. Noise level measurement should be requested from the Consolidated Preventive Medicine Unit, Industrial Hygiene Department USNH Okinawa.

f. Paragraph 7a(2). Develop and maintain a current listing of all recognized noise hazardous areas.

g. Paragraph 7a(3). Be alert for possible noise hazardous areas which have already been identified.

h. Paragraph 7a(5). Identify all personnel currently assigned to duties involving hazardous noise and submit names on enclosure (1) to medical facilities holding health records of individuals involved.

i. Paragraph 7a(7). Budget for and maintain issue for hearing protection devices.

j. Paragraph 7a(8). Budget for engineering control for abatement of noise hazard.

k. Paragraph 7a(9). Ensure that training is provided to all personnel at time of noise hazards.

l. Paragraph 7a(10). Establish a hearing conservation education program under the designated safety officer, utilizing medical assets for an on-going training program.

m. Paragraph 7b. Establish audiometric testing facilities and procedures for medical departments.

n. Paragraphs 7d(3) and (4). Enforce the wearing of hearing devices in designated noise hazardous areas.

o. Paragraph 7e(4). Develop and implement a planned maintenance schedule for ear muff type aural protectors.

p. Paragraph 7e(5). Ensure compliance with hearing protection requirements during all training.

q. Enclosure (1). Occupational Exposure Registry

5. Information. The major elements of the hearing conservation program are noise monitoring and evaluation, personal protective measures, audiometry, education and engineering control measures

a. Noise monitoring and evaluations will be conducted by audiologists, industrial hygienists or other persons trained and qualified to perform such tasks. Equipment used in noise measurement must conform with the requirements set forth in reference (g).

b. Personal protective measures will be utilized by all personnel in areas where noise hazards exist. All personnel shall be measured for earplugs that require fitting by medical personnel.

c. All FMF personnel will have a valid reference audiogram DD 2215 in their health record. Individuals who are routinely required to work in a noise hazardous environment shall be identified and placed on the hearing conservation program. Personnel shall receive a monitoring audiogram (DD 2216) annually for as long as they are occupationally exposed to hazardous noise. The monitoring audiogram is then compared with the reference audiogram to determine if a Significant Threshold Shift (STS) has occurred as outlined in reference (e). The 90 day monitoring hearing test is required only after the initial assignment to duties in designated hazardous environments.

d. Education is an integral and necessary part of hearing conservation program. All personnel, both officer and enlisted, shall be made aware of the risks involved in unprotected exposure to noise and understand the need to utilize the proper protective equipment. It should be further stressed that officers and SNCO's in positions of authority are responsible for the hearing conservation of those who fall under their leadership. They must ensure that hearing protection devices are worn when the possibility of hearing loss due to noise exists. Failure to wear or to require the wearing of hearing protection in a required area may result in disciplinary action. Furthermore, each individual will be familiar with the following information:

(1) Loss of hearing can be prevented. Proper use of hearing devices will not impair a leader's ability to command his Marines. Instead, hearing conservation efforts will enhance every Marines ability to receive such commands.

(2) Each individual must be thoroughly indoctrinated in the proper use and care of their particular protective device(s).

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(3) Organization, unit or activity policy regarding conservation should stress a continuing effort to maintain and reinforce the HCP and to motivate personnel to comply with the program guidelines.

e. Battalion/organizational commanders have the overall responsibility for noise hazardous areas within their command. When required, corrective/ preventive measures, will be coordinated with the Medical Officer, Consolidated Preventive Medicine Unit, Division Engineer, and Division Safety.

6. Discussion

a. Exposure to potentially harmful noise is probably the most widespread occupational health hazard faced by the Marine Corps and Navy personnel assigned to the 3d Marine Division. Repeated exposure of unprotected personnel to hazardous noise which can be produced by aircraft, weapons, vehicles, industrial or recreational activities may reduce job performance, mission readiness and effective communications.

b. Symptoms of hearing loss include but are not limited to: Muffled hearing, ringing in the ears and the inability to hear and discriminate high frequency sounds. A loss of hearing due to unprotected exposure to hazardous noise can produce deterioration in hearing which is not readily apparent to the individual. When individuals begin to notice a hearing loss, extensive damage has already occurred. Loss of hearing due to noise can not be corrected by any known medical or surgical treatment, therefore, hearing loss due to noise exposure can and must be prevented by controlling noise at the source or by reducing personnel exposure to the noise. Noise levels greater than 84 dBA (decibel allowance) or 140 dB peak sound pressure levels are regarded as potentially dangerous to hearing. Hearing conservation must be initiated at noise levels of 85 dBA. A noise hazard exists if a conversation between two individuals cannot be conducted in a normal voice at a distance of three feet. If such an area exists, noise level measurements may be requested through Consolidated Preventive Medicine Unit, Industrial Hygiene Department.

7. Responsibilities

a. Battalion/Organizational Commanders will:

(1) Identify all areas, worksites, and equipment as noise hazardous areas and label those areas in accordance with references (a) through (g).

(2) Submit requests for monitoring or evaluation of possible noise hazardous areas in writing to the Industrial

Hygiene Department, Consolidated Preventive Medicine Unit, U.S. Naval Hospital, Okinawa.

(3) Identify potential noise hazards and implement a hearing conservation program. A roster shall be maintained on all personnel placed in the program.

(4) Identify all personnel currently assigned to duties involving hazardous noise and submit names on enclosure (1) to the Industrial Hygiene Department. Personnel who do not have valid reference audiograms shall not be assigned to these areas.

(5) Use regular operation and maintenance funds to provide for noise abatement and hearing conservation materials (i.e. hearing protection devices) per references (c) and (f).

(6) Ensure that training on the HCP is provided to all personnel at a time of initial assignment to duties in hazardous noise areas. Appropriate refresher training shall be provided annually thereafter.

(7) Establish a hearing conservation education program under the designated safety officer, utilizing the unit's medical assets for an ongoing training program.

(8) Place emphasis on leadership by example regarding the wearing of hearing protection devices. Command policy shall be enforced with disciplinary measures implemented for failure to comply with the requirements of the Hearing Conservation Program.

b. Medical Departments will:

(1) Provide audiometric support upon request in support of a unit/command hearing conservation program.

(2) Provide for earplug fitting for both military/civilian personnel within their program.

(3) Assure that audiometric testing, follow-up, clinical evaluation, referrals and other medical consideration as required by references (c) through (e) are followed.

(4) Arrange through the individual Safety Officer, noise level surveys as required by reference (d).

c. Division Surgeon will:

(1) Monitor Hearing Conservation Program, including health record reviews throughout the 3d Marine Division.

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(2) Advise the Commanding General of ways to improve the Hearing Conservation Program.

d. Division Safety Officer will:

(1) Conduct periodic inspections to ensure that compliance with this Order is accomplished.

(2) Conduct spot checks of aircraft supporting 3d Marine Division to ensure that protective devices are being used by passengers and crew.

(3) Enforce the wearing of hearing protective devices in designated noise hazardous areas.

(4) Initiate disciplinary measures on personnel who fail to comply with the requirement of the hearing conservation program.

(5) Ensure that all equipment which produces levels and all hazardous work areas are appropriately labeled in accordance with references (c) through (g). NAVMED 6260.2, Hazardous Noise Warning Decal and NAVMED 6260.2A, Hazardous Noise Label shall be used for this purpose. Military vehicles and equipment are exempt from this requirement.

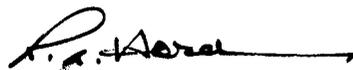
e. OIC, Division Range Detail will:

(1) Provide double hearing protection (earmuffs and disposable earplugs) for any work area where weapons (e.g. firearm, artillery, missiles) are routinely fired.

(2) Develop and implement a planned maintenance schedule for the earmuff type of aural protection to assure that the seals are maintained in functional condition.

(3) Develop and implement an aggressive program to assure compliance with hearing protection requirements during all training exercises by all persons exposed to gunfire.

8. The Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3, will announce training requirements pertinent to the HCP in appropriate training directives.



R. A. HORD
Chief of Staff

DISTRIBUTION: A/B

OCCUPATIONAL EXPOSURE REGISTRY

Command: _____

Shop/Work Center: _____

Location: _____

Documented Exposure: _____

Programs Assigned: _____

Date of Initial Roster: _____

Dates Revised: _____

<u>Name (Last, First, M. I.)</u>	<u>SSN</u>	<u>BIRTH DATE</u>	<u>RTD</u>
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UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

3D MARINE DIVISION (-) (REIN)

UNIT 35801

FPO AP 96602-5801

In reply refer to:

5215

ADJ

10 Aug 98

From: Adjutant Chief, 3d Marine Division
To: Division Surgeon, 3d Marine Division

Subj: REVIEW OF DIVISION ORDER 6260.2D

Ref: (a MCO P5215.1F

1. In accordance with the reference, the subject directive, originating from your section, requires annual review. This annual review form must be returned to the Division Adjutant, regardless of any changes made to the directives, by 24 August 1998.


M. D. SINGERHOUSE
MSGT USMC

FIRST ENDORSEMENT

From: G-1 Navy Personnel, 3d Marine Division
To: Adjutant Chief, 3d Marine Division

1. Returned. The subject directive has been reviewed and (choose one of the following)

a. The directive is current and requires on further action.

X b. The directive requires changes. The changes are attached or will be forwarded by 28 Sep 98
Date

c. The directive is no longer required and may be canceled.


E. M. SANTA MARIA
(Enclosure) USN

(Originator's Signature)