DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, U.S. ARMY ALASKA
600 RICHARDSON DRIVE # 5000
FORT RICHARDSON, ALASKA 99505-5000

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

APVR-RDZ

0 6 NOV 2002

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Use of Commercial Off-the-Shelf (COTS) Fuel-Fired Space Heaters (CG/CofS Policy Statement #0-36)

1. Commercial off-the-shelf space heaters will only be used within U.S. Army Alaska under the following guidelines:

a. Operators must be trained and licensed on each type of COTS space heater in accordance with AR 600-55. The standard for training must be the manufacturer's manual for the particular heater being used. Standing operating procedures (SOPs) must be developed addressing proper use, setup, operation, and maintenance of the particular heater in use. The manufacturer's manual will be on-site for the particular heater in use.

b. A written risk assessment will be performed prior to the use of any COTS space heater. The commander of the using unit will approve the risk assessment.

2. Commercial off-the-shelf space heaters, including bullet heaters, Coleman catalytic heaters or unvented commercial kerosene heaters, are **prohibited for heating tents used for sleeping, living, or administrative work areas occupied by personnel (i.e., TOCs, BMMC & medical holding tents).** Bullet heaters may be used to heat outside equipment, maintenance tents with adequate ventilation, or unoccupied tents to warm equipment/supplies consistent with the manufacture's manual.

3. Commercial off-the-shelf space heaters are inherently dangerous because they vent dangerous exhaust fumes that contain carbon monoxide directly into work and sleeping areas (tents) and consume the oxygen in the air. The risks of carbon monoxide poisoning are high and our soldiers' lives are too important.

4. Leaders at all levels will enforce this policy.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

DAVID A. WOOD
COL, GS
Chief of Staff

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