



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
HEADQUARTERS, U.S. ARMY GARRISON, FORT WAINWRIGHT
1046 MARKS ROAD #6000
FORT WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA 99703-6000

DEC 01 2015

MCUC-AHP

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Army Hearing Program (Garrison Policy #58)

1. References:

- a. Department of Defense Instruction 6055.12 DOD Hearing Conservation Program (HCP), 3 December 2012.
- b. AR 40-5, Preventive Medicine, 25 May 2007.
- c. DA Pamphlet 40-501, Army Hearing Program, 8 January 2015.
- d. United States Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine Technical Guide 41, Personal Hearing Protection Devices-Their Fitting, Care and Use.

2. Hazardous noise continues to be the number one occupational health threat to military and civilian personnel in the Army. About 25 percent of Soldiers returning from combat suffer from hearing loss. This loss can be deadly in both combat and noncombat situations. Noise-induced hearing loss, however, is almost always entirely preventable.

3. Soldiers and Civilians with hearing loss affect mission readiness. Therefore, the prevention of hearing loss is a combat multiplier. It also preserves quality of life and promotes effective job performance. In addition, it reduces compensation costs (hearing disability claims are a significant burden to taxpayers each year).

4. Because of the potential for exposure to hazardous noise, including noise in combat, in the workplace, and that associated with military training exercises and recreational activities, all Soldiers assigned to Fort Wainwright will be included in the Hearing Program. All Soldiers and Civilians will wear appropriate hearing protection whenever they are exposed to hazardous noise on all ranges, training areas and in all work places. All Soldiers will wear the ear plug case attached to the 1st belt loop to the right of center on the ACUs at all times. I expect full cooperation and maximum participation in the Army Hearing Program which includes annual hearing testing, health education, earplug fitting, and safety briefings.

5. Commanders and leaders at all levels will ensure Soldiers and Civilians wear appropriate hearing protective devices any time they are exposed to hazardous noise. They will also ensure that all deploying Soldiers and Civilians are issued Combat Arms Earplugs and are provided training on their proper wear and fit. These earplugs are generally issued through RFI but may also be ordered by following the guidance in reference 1.d. The Fort Wainwright Army Hearing Program will be part of the Command Inspection Program.

6. Hearing and occupational protection requirements will be annotated for all Soldiers in the Medical Protection System (MEDPROS) along with all other medical readiness information. United States civilian hearing and occupational protection requirements will be annotated in the appropriate medical records. All hazardous noise areas and shops recommended for the Army Hearing Program will be documented in the Defense Occupational and Environmental Health Readiness System - Industrial Hygiene (DOEHRSIH).

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7. The enforcement of the requirements of the Army Hearing Program is a chain-of-command responsibility. Direct involvement in this effort will enhance combat effectiveness and ensure mission accomplishment.

8. Questions and requests for assistance on the Fort Wainwright Army Hearing Program may be directed to the Fort Wainwright Army Hearing Program Manager at 907-361-5307 or kel.h.kratzer.mil@mail.mil and/or the Fort Wainwright Army Hearing Program Coordinator at 907-3615212 or daniel.b.posey.civ@mail.mil.



SEAN C. WILLIAMS
COL, SF
Commanding

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