

***** UNCLASSIFIED// *****

Subject: FIRST QUARTER FY09 SUMMARY OF TRAINING-RELATED MISHAPS

Originator: COMNAVSAFECEN NORFOLK VA(UC)

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MSGID/GENADMIN/COMNAVSAFECEN/40/FEB//

SUBJ/ FIRST QUARTER FY09 SUMMARY OF TRAINING-RELATED MISHAPS//

REF/A/DESC:DOC/CNO/18NOV2004// REF/B/DESC:DOC/CNO/30JUL2004//
REF/C/DESC:DOC/CNO/07JAN2005// NARR/REF A IS OPNAVINST 1500.75A;
SAFETY POLICY AND PROCEDURES FOR CONDUCTING HIGH-RISK TRAINING. REF B IS OPNAVINST 3500.39B; OPERATIONAL RISK MANAGEMENT(ORM). REF C IS OPNAVINST 5102.1D/MCO P5102.1B MISHAP AND SAFETY INVESTIGATION, REPORTING AND RECORD KEEPING MANUAL.// POC/DAVID TOMLINSON/CWO5/UNIT:NAVSAFECEN 41/NAME:NORFOLK /TEL:757-444-3520 X7175/TEL:DSN 564-3520 X7175 /EMAIL:DAVID.L.TOMLINSON(AT)NAVY.MIL//

GENTEXT/REMARKS/1. TRAINING IS ONE OF THE MOST CRITICAL COMPONENTS FOR MISSION SUCCESS AND QUITE OFTEN POSES A POTENTIAL RISK TO OUR PEOPLE. THE INTENT OF THIS MESSAGE IS TO HIGHLIGHT INJURIES SUSTAINED DURING FIRST QUARTER FY 2009 TRAINING EVENTS AND PROVIDE COMMANDERS, COMMANDING OFFICERS, AND SAFETY MANAGERS WITH USEFUL INFORMATION TO ENABLE THE PREVENTION OF THESE KINDS OF MISHAPS. REQUEST WIDEST DISSEMINATION WITHIN THE TRAINING COMMUNITIES FOR MAXIMUM IMPACT.

2. DURING FIRST QUARTER FY09, 240 TRAINING-RELATED MISHAPS WERE REPORTED IN WEB ENABLED SAFETY SYSTEM (WESS). OF THESE INJURIES, 77% (185) WERE RELATED TO STRENUOUS PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AND TRAINING WITH PHYSICAL CONTACT. WHILE THE RISK OF INJURY IS MAGNIFIED DURING THIS TYPE OF TRAINING IT SERVES TO EMPHASIZE THE USE OF OPERATIONAL RISK MANAGEMENT AND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PROPER CONTROLS TO HELP MITIGATE RISK. BELOW IS A BREAKDOWN OF SOME OF THE MAJOR CATEGORIES WHERE INJURIES OCCURRED.

- DURING PRT/PT/HUMPS/MARCHES; 7 CASES OF DEHYDRATION/HEAT STRESS, 18 COMPLAINTS OF DIZZINESS/CHEST PAINS, 34 CASES OF ANKLE INJURY, 21 SHOULDER

AND ARM INJURIES, 10 FOOT INJURIES, 16 KNEE INJURIES, 9 HIP INJURIES, 1 GROIN INJURY, 8 BACK INJURIES, 7 HAND/FINGER INJURIES, 3 NECK INJURIES, 4 FACE INJURIES.

- DURING NON-LETHAL/SELF DEFENSE/COMBAT TRAINING; 2 CASES OF ANKLE INJURY, 12 SHOULDER AND ARM INJURIES, 5 KNEE INJURIES, 5 LEG INJURIES, 6 GROIN/ABDOMEN INJURIES, 3 BACK INJURIES, 4 AND/FINGER INJURIES, 7 HEAD AND FACE INJURIES.

- DURING UNIT LEVEL TRAINING AND DRILLS; 1 CASE OF DEHYDRATION/HEAT STRESS, 1 ANKLE INJURY, 2 ARM INJURIES, 3 KNEE INJURIES, 1 BACK INJURY, 5 HAND/FINGER INJURIES, 4 HEAD AND FACE INJURIES, 1 INSECT BITE AND 1 SNAKE BITE.

- CLASSROOM AND LABORATORY TRAINING; 2 BACK INJURIES, 1 LEG INJURY, 2 ARM INJURIES, 2 ANKLE INJURIES, 3 FINGER INJURIES, 2 NECK INJURIES AND 2 CASES OF ELECTRICAL SHOCK.

- DURING OTHER MISCELLANEOUS TRAINING EVENTS; 6 CASES OF EAR BLOCKAGE, AND A BROKEN CATHETER IN ARM DURING IV TRAINING.

3. MANY OF THESE TRAINING RELATED MISHAPS COULD HAVE BEEN AVOIDED THROUGH PROPER WARM-UP AND STRETCHING PRIOR TO PHYSICAL ACTIVITY, ADEQUATE ACCLIMATION AND HYDRATION, AND PROPER USE OF PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE). ACTIVITIES MUST RECOGNIZE THAT PPE DEVICES DO NOTHING TO REDUCE OR ELIMINATE HAZARDS. PPE MERELY ESTABLISHES THE LAST LINE OF DEFENSE, AND ANY EQUIPMENT BREAKDOWN, FAILURE, OR MISUSE IMMEDIATELY EXPOSES PERSONNEL TO A HAZARD. RISK MITIGATION MUST BE COMPREHENSIVE AND INCLUDE KEY LEADERSHIP AND SUPERVISION. INJURIES ARE NOT AN ACCEPTABLE COST OF BUSINESS IN TRAINING. ACTIVITIES MUST PRE-PLAN AND ACT TO MITIGATE THE UNEXPECTED OCCURRENCE DURING TRAINING AND MISSION ACCOMPLISHMENT.

4. A SINGLE INJURY WITH NO LOST TIME EQUATES TO A COST OF \$120, WHILE LOST WORK DAYS EQUATE TO BETWEEN \$300 AND \$425 PER DAY. IF THE SVM IS SEPARATED FROM SERVICE, THE AVERAGE LOSS/REPLACEMENT VALUE IS ESTIMATED TO BE APPROXIMATELY \$500,000 (ENLISTED) TO \$800,000 (OFFICER). AT THIS RATE, IF 50 PEOPLE WERE DISCHARGED ANNUALLY DUE TO INJURIES SUSTAINED IN TRAINING, IT WOULD EQUATE TO APPROXIMATELY \$30,000,000. LEADERSHIP AND SUPERVISION ARE KEY INGREDIENTS TOWARDS ACHIEVING SAFELY EXECUTED TRAINING.

5. MISHAP REPORTS ARE AN ESSENTIAL ELEMENT FOR LEADERSHIP TO CONSIDER WHEN MAKING ANY DECISIONS ABOUT THE TRAINING MISSION OR RISKS TO STAFF OR STUDENTS. REFS A AND B PROVIDE BASIC MANAGEMENT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR MITIGATING RISKS IN TRAINING. REF C PROVIDES THE REPORTING AND RECORD KEEPING REQUIREMENTS FOR MISHAPS. TO RECONCILE LOCALLY HELD MISHAP RECORDS WITH THE WEB-ENABLED SAFETY SYSTEM VISIT THE WESS RECONCILIATION WEB PAGE AT WWW.SAFETYCENTER.NAVY.MIL/EXECSUMMARY/SEARCH.CFM OR SELECT THE WESS RECONCILIATION HOT BUTTON AT THE BOTTOM OF THE HOME PAGE. THE WESS HELP DESK CAN BE REACHED USING THE HELP FORM: WWW.SAFETYCENTER.NAVY.MIL/WESS/HELPPFORM.HTM OR BY CALLING (757) 444-3520 EXT. 7048 (DSN 564) DURING NORMAL BUSINESS HOURS, MONDAY-FRIDAY, 0800 TO 1630 EST/EDT.//