DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, JOINT READINESS TRAINING CENTER AND FORT POLK
6661 WARRIOR TRAIL, BUILDING 350
FORT POLK, LOUISIANA 71459-5339

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

IMSE-POL-ES

NOV 19 2012

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Command Policy Memorandum DES-02 – Noise Abatement

1. Purpose: This memorandum establishes the standards and enforcement measures for Fort Polk's noise abatement policy.

2. Applicability: This memorandum applies to all Soldiers and civilians on Fort Polk, regardless of unit, affiliation, or status.

3. Background: Excessive noise damages hearing, poses a safety risk, undermines good order and discipline, and disturbs the peace and tranquility of the Fort Polk community. While appropriate measures exist to control noise created by normal military operations, additional measures are required to address excessive noise created by personal activities on the installation.

4. Authority:

a. Army Regulation 600-20 grants commanders broad disciplinary powers in furtherance of command responsibilities. Ensuring the proper conduct of Soldiers and good order and discipline on a military installation is a function of command.

b. Section 103.1 of Title 14, Louisiana Revised Statutes, makes it a crime to cause emanations of excessive sound or noise. This statute is enforceable on Fort Polk under Section 13 or Title 18, United States Code.

5. Policy: Excessive noise is prohibited on the Fort Polk military installation. No person shall operate or permit the operation of any sound amplification system which emanates unreasonably loud or excessive sound or noise which is likely to cause inconvenience or annoyance to persons of ordinary sensibilities. Excessive noise is defined as the following:

a. Music, vibrations, or other sounds emanating from a sound amplification system located in or on any motor vehicle on any street, parking lot, or other open area of the installation, which is audible at a distance of greater than 25 feet from the source of the sound.

b. Music, vibrations, or other sounds emanating from a hand carried or other device carried on the person while on any street, parking lot, or other open area of the installation when the sound from the devise is audible at a distance of 25 feet from the person or source of the sound.

c. Music, vibrations, or other sounds emanating from any sound system or source located in any barracks, quarters, or other building on the installation and which is audible through the walls of adjacent rooms and which disturbs, disrupts, or bothers anyone hearing the sound through the walls, open doors, or open windows of the room in which the sound originates. Additionally, any music, vibrations, or other sounds emanating from any sound system or source located outdoors and which disturbs, disrupts, or bothers individuals in or on adjoining outside areas is excessive and prohibited. Further, the installation will have quiet hours during which no sound shall be made which emanates through walls, doors, windows, or across outside areas and which is audible to occupants of neighboring rooms, houses, yards, or installation outside areas.

(1) On Sunday evenings through Friday mornings from 2200 until 0500.

(2) On Friday evenings until Sunday mornings from 2400 until 0600.

d. Profanity emanating from any music or sound source and which can be heard outside of any motor vehicle located on the installation anywhere from any distance from the vehicle and profanity emanating from any music or sound source and which can be heard outside of or from the next room or structure from any room, house, building, or outside area is excessive and prohibited.

6. Exceptions: The provisions of this policy do not apply to the use of a horn, alarm, or other warning device which signals unsafe or dangerous situations or which summons the assistance of law enforcement when used for such purpose, or when used in conjunction with a permitted event. The provisions of this policy do not apply to noise caused by military operations or other official activities.

7. Waiver. Written waiver of this policy may be granted for unit or public activities on Fort Polk. Waiver authority is the first commander in the rank of lieutenant colonel (LTC) in that unit's chain of command. Units without a commander in the rank of LTC or higher on Fort Polk will request a waiver through the garrison commander.

8. Enforcement: Individuals who violate this policy may face both criminal and administrative action, including revocation of on-post driving privileges, revocation of on-post living accommodations, or bar from the installation. Military personnel who

violate this policy may also be subject to punishment for violation of Article 92 or Article 134 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ). Civilians who violate this policy may be subject to prosecution is US Magistrate Court. Enforcement will be through the following methods:

a. All leaders will rigorously enforce this policy through on-the-spot corrections.

b. Military police will issue appropriate citations to both Soldiers and civilians.

c. Any individual who observes violations of this policy should report the violation to the relevant unit's chain of command or to the provost marshal's office/Directorate of Emergency Services.

9. This policy will remain in effect until superseded or rescinded.

WILLIAM B. HICKMAN
Brigadier General, USA
Commanding

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