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:

AFZX-PM

APR 0 6 2005

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Command Policy Memorandum PMO-02 – Noise Abatement, Change 1

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 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 of 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:

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 10 feet.

b. Music, vibrations, or other sounds emanating from a hand carried sound system on any street, parking lot, or other open area of the installation which is audible at a distance of 10 feet.

c. Music, vibrations, or other sounds emanating from any sound system located in any barracks, quarters, or other building on the installation which is audible at a distance of 10 feet from the exterior wall of the building.

d. Profanity in lyrics that can be heard outside any motor vehicle, regardless of distance. This may also violate Command Policy SJA-03, "Indecent Language."

6. Exceptions: The provisions of this policy do not apply to the use of a horn, alarm, or other warning device which has as its purpose the signaling of unsafe or dangerous situations or to summon the assistance of law enforcement when used for such purpose, or when used in conjunction with a permitted event. The provisions of this policy to 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 grade of lieutenant colonel (LTC) commander in that unit's chain of command. Units without a commander in the grade 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 the revocation on on-post driving privileges. 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 will be subject to prosecution in 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 the provost marshal's office.

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 This policy will remain in effect until superseded or rescinded.

MICHAEL D. BARBERO
Brigadier General, USA
Commanding

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