



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS  
MARINE CORPS BASE  
QUANTICO, VIRGINIA 22134-5001

MCBO 6260.2A  
B 51  
2 Jul 96

MARINE CORPS BASE ORDER 6260.2A w/Ch 1

From: Commanding General  
To: Distribution List

Subj: HEARING CONSERVATION PROGRAM

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5100.23D  
(b) MCO 6260.1D  
(c) MCO 5100.8E  
(d) MCBO P5100.1

Encl: (1) Definitions  
(2) Hearing Protective Devices Approved For Use Aboard MCB,  
Quantico

1. Purpose. To establish and implement an effective hearing conservation program per references (a) and (b).

2. Cancellation. MCBO 6260.2.

3. Summary of Revision. This revision modifies titles of responsible personnel, divisions/commands, and updates the reference orders.

4. Definitions. For the purpose of this Order, the definitions contained in enclosure (1) apply.

5. Background. One of the most significant occupational health hazards faced by Marine Corps personnel is exposure to potentially harmful noise. Repeated exposure of unprotected personnel to hazardous noise produced by aircraft, weapons, vehicles, training, industrial, and recreational activities may cause permanent damage to hearing. Hearing loss must be prevented by controlling noise at the source or by reducing personnel exposure to the noise.

6. Identification of Potentially Hazardous Noise

a. Posting Requirements

(1) All designated identified hazardous noise sources and areas shall be posted conspicuously with appropriate caution signs. Each tool or piece of equipment which produces 85dBA or greater shall be marked conspicuously by using NAVMED 6260/2, Hazardous Noise Warning Decal, and/or NAVMED 6260/2A, Hazardous Noise Labels (displayed on hand tools).

(2) Exteriors of military combatant equipment are exempted from this labeling requirement. However, units must maintain a list of military combatant equipment which has been designated as potentially noise hazardous so that personnel are aware that the use of personal hearing protection is required.

b. Noise Level Surveys, Measurements, and Analysis

(1) All noise level measurements, exposure analysis, and surveys shall be conducted by qualified personnel using procedures and equipment per reference (a).

(2) A noise level survey of an area shall be conducted whenever a change is made either in equipment or operations so that significant changes in noise levels will be acted upon promptly. It shall be the responsibility of the immediate supervisor, military or civilian, to initiate a request for a noise level survey whenever the above changes occur. Requests are to be made to the Occupational Health/Preventive Medicine Department, Naval Medical Clinic (NMCL). Identified or suspected new noise hazard areas are to be surveyed within 30 days for any change in conditions which may affect noise levels. A copy of all such surveys will be forwarded, by the NMCL, to the Director, Safety Division.

(3) A sound level survey shall be made by the Occupational Health/Preventive Medicine Department, NMCL, at least annually to ensure that sound levels have not increased above original existing ones. The survey may also establish that noise levels in some areas have been reduced to levels below 85dBA and thereby justify discontinuing requirements for labeling, hearing protection, and hearing testing of individuals in these areas.

(4) A continuous program of noise measurements shall be instituted, at least annually, to determine individual exposures to hazardous noise. Records of such noise measurements shall be made on NEHC Form 5100/18 (Industrial Hygiene Noise Dosimetry Form) or 5100/17 (Industrial Hygiene Noise Survey Form), and contain additional information as required by reference (a).

7. Engineering Controls

a. Engineering controls shall be the primary means to protect personnel from identified hazardous noise. All practical design approaches to reduce noise levels by acoustical engineering shall be explored. The objective shall be to assure, where feasible, a sound pressure level of less than 85dBA at all locations in which personnel may be present during normal operations.

b. Where hazardous noise sources are identified for corrective action involving engineering controls, the procedures outlined in reference (c) shall be followed.

8. Personal Hearing Protection and Devices

a. The use of personal hearing protective devices is required while engineering controls are in the process of being implemented or when they are only partially effective, or are not feasible and when operations generate noise levels of:

(1) Greater than 84dB(A) sound level

(2) When noise levels exceed 104dB(A) double hearing protection is required.

b. Supervisors will ensure personal hearing protective devices are issued gratis to all personnel who work in designated noise hazardous areas or are required to enter such areas.

c. All personnel, military and civilian, working in or entering designated noise hazardous areas or working with potentially noise hazardous equipment must have hearing protective devices in their possession at all times. When hazardous noise sources are operating, personnel shall wear their hearing protective devices regardless of exposure time.

d. All levels of supervision and management, by personal example and precept, shall ensure compliance with the prescribed use of hearing protection. It must be recognized that the enforcement of wearing hearing protective devices is exclusively the responsibility of supervision and management to the extent that refusal to wear hearing protective devices by an employee can result in disciplinary action.

e. Per reference (d), procurement and funding for hearing protective devices are the responsibility of the organization having operational responsibility over the personnel to be protected.

f. Information concerning the selection of the appropriate hearing protective devices to be used aboard MCB, Quantico is contained in enclosure (2).

g. Hearing protective devices other than those identified in enclosure (2) shall be prohibited from use at MCB, Quantico unless a written variance is obtained from the Director, Safety Division. Such a variance may be granted only after evaluation by the Occupational Health Nurse, NMCL.

9. Hearing Conservation Education

a. All personnel, military and civilian, shall receive information from the audiometric technician concerning the Marine Corps Hearing Conservation Program at the time of their entrance physical audiogram.

b. The Occupational Health/Preventive Medicine Department, NMCL, with the assistance of the Safety Division shall provide training for all personnel placed in the Hearing Conservation Program.

c. Records of hearing conservation training shall be maintained at the Occupational Health/Preventive Medicine Department, NMCL. Training records shall also be maintained at the organizational level. Training records shall be available to and be reviewed by the Safety Division during annual safety inspections.

#### 10. Entrance and Separation Audiograms

a. All military and civilian personnel who enter or terminate service with the Marine Corps shall receive an audiogram as part of their entrance and separation physical examination. Accordingly, the following action shall be taken to ensure personnel receive hearing tests:

(1) Military Personnel. Organizational commanders are to ensure that all checking in and checking out procedures include a hearing examination at the NMCL.

(2) Civilian Personnel. The Head, Civilian Human Resources Office - Quantico (CHRO-Q), shall ensure all in-hire employees receive an audiogram as part of the preemployment physical examination and prior to separation from the Federal Service.

b. The Health Care Advisor, NMCL, shall institute appropriate procedures to ensure that personnel reporting to the clinic receive the required entrance or separation audiograms.

#### 11. Hearing Testing and Evaluation Program

a. Periodic Audiograms. All personnel assigned to designated noise hazardous areas shall have an audiogram after 90 days exposure and then annually, or as recommended by the Occupational Health Nurse. The following actions shall be taken to meet these requirements:

(1) 90-Day Audiograms. The supervisor, military or civilian, of an area designated as potentially noise hazardous shall ensure that newly assigned personnel receive an audiogram after the first 90 days of exposure. Scheduling of audiograms is to be made by contacting the Occupational Health Nurse, NMCL.

(2) Annual Audiograms. Annual audiograms shall be scheduled by the Occupational Health Nurse and coordinated through the Head, CHRO-Q, for civilian personnel and the organizational commander for military personnel.

(3) Additional Audiograms. As determined by the Head, Occupational Health/Preventive Medicine Department, NMCL, additional

or follow-up audiograms may be necessary. Scheduling of these audiograms shall be conducted in the same manner as annual audiograms.

(4) Results of Audiograms. Results of all audiograms shall become part of the individual's health record.

b. Identification of Personnel Exposed to Hazardous Noise Sources

(1) All personnel exposed routinely to potentially hazardous noise shall be identified and placed on the hearing conservation program. Immediate supervisors, military and civilian, of personnel exposed to potentially hazardous noise sources shall identify such personnel per the procedures outlined per reference (b).

(2) Personnel who infrequently are required to enter noise hazardous areas may also be included in the hearing conservation program.

c. Disposition of Personnel Showing Hearing Loss

(1) The Health Care Advisor, NMCL, shall be the recommending authority concerning the disposition of personnel showing a hearing loss. Medical dispositions are to be decided on an individual basis using the guidelines promulgated by reference (a).

(2) In instances where it may be necessary to remove personnel from further exposure to hazardous noise environments, such action shall be coordinated through the Head, CHRO-Q, for civilian personnel or the organizational commander for military personnel.

12. Action

a. Commanders/Directors. Comply with the elements of this Order that apply to operations under their cognizance.

b. Health Care Advisor, NMCL. Ensure the conduct of appropriate hearing conservation training, noise level surveys, noise measurements, exposure analysis, and audiometric testing.

c. Industrial Hygienist (NMCL)

(1) Conduct noise measurements of work areas, work sites and equipment which are or may be noise hazardous or as requested by cognizant authorities.

(2) Forward the complete noise measurements and exposure analysis to the cognizant activity head.

(3) Maintain a current list of all noise hazardous areas and equipment.

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(4) Furnish a list of all noise hazardous areas to the Occupational Health Nurse, NMCL, and the Director, Safety Division on an annual basis, or more often as necessary.

d. Safety Division. The Personal Protective Equipment Program Manager is designated as coordinator for the MCB Hearing Conservation Program and will:

(1) Receive copies of and maintain records of all noise level surveys, noise measurements, and personnel rosters per the retention criteria in reference (a).

(2) Provide guidance, as necessary, to commanding officers, staff officers, and supervisors concerning implementation of this Order and the abatement of noise hazards.

(3) Act as liaison between MCB, Quantico and tenant activities and the NMCL in requesting technical assistance concerning noise level surveys, noise measurements, hearing protective devices, training, etc.

(4) Incorporate the elements of this Order into the safety and health inspection program to ensure the identification and correction of administration and operational discrepancies.



G. B. BROWN III  
Chief of Staff

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QUANTICO, VIRGINIA 22134-5001

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5 Aug 97

MARINE CORPS BASE ORDER 6260.2A Ch 1

From: Commanding General  
To: Distribution List

Subj: HEARING CONSERVATION PROGRAM

1. Purpose. To direct a pen change to enclosure (2) of the basic Order.
2. Action. On page 2 of enclosure (2) at Nomenclature 15 change the EPA Noise Reduction Rating to read "9dB" vice "25dB."
3. Filing Instructions. File this change transmittal immediately following the signature page of the basic Order.

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Chief of Staff

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DEFINITIONS

1. Administrative Control. Any procedure which limits daily noise exposure by control of the work schedule.
2. Audiogram. A graph or table showing hearing threshold levels as a function of frequency.
3. Decibel (dB). A unit of measure used to express the relative intensity or loudness of sound.
4. dBA. A sound level reading in decibels made with a sound level meter set on the A-weighted scale.
5. Effective Sound Level
  - a. For individuals not wearing hearing protective devices, the sound level in the workplace.
  - b. For individuals wearing hearing protective devices, the result of subtracting the effective reduction of the particular hearing protective device in use from the measured workplace sound level.
6. Engineering Control. Any procedure or method, other than administrative control or personal hearing protection, which reduces the sound level either at the source of the noise or within the hearing zone of individuals.
7. Noise Exposure. Personal interaction to a combination of the effective sound level and its duration.
8. Potentially Hazardous Noise. Any exposure to 85dBA or greater or 140dB peak sound pressure level for impact or impulse noise.
9. Potentially Hazardous Noise Area
  - a. Any work area where the sound level (continuous or intermittent) is routinely 85dBA or greater.
  - b. Any work area where the peak sound level (impulse or impact noise) routinely exceeds 140dB.

ENCLOSURE (1)

HEARING PROTECTIVE DEVICES APPROVED FOR USE  
ABOARD MCB, QUANTICO

<u>Manufacturers Nomenclature/NSN</u>	<u>Type of Protector</u>	<u>EPA Noise Reduction Rating (NRR)</u>	<u>Federal Nomenclature</u>
1. Ear Defender V-51R* 6515-00-442-4765	Insert Earplug (sized)	23dB	Plug, Ear, Noise Protection 24's (X-Small (White))
2. Ear Defender V-15R* 6515-00-467-0085	Insert Earplug (sized)	23dB	Plug, Ear, Noise Protection 24's (Small) (Green)
3. Ear Defender V-51R* 6515-00-467-0089	Insert Earplug (sized)	23dB	Plug, Ear, Noise Protection 24's (Medium) (Intl. Orange)
4. Ear Defender V-51R* 6515-00-442-4807	Insert Earplug (sized)	23dB	Plug, Ear, Noise Protection 24's (Large) (Blue)
5. Ear Defender V-51R* 6515-00-442-4813	Insert Earplug (sized)	23dB	Plug, Ear, Noise Protection 24's (X-Large) (Red)
6. Comfit, Triple Flange* 6515-00-442-4821	Insert Earplug (sized)	26dB	Plug, Ear, Noise Protection 24's (Small) (Green)
7. Comfit, Triple Flange* 6515-00-442-4818	Insert Earplug (sized)	26dB	Plug, Ear, Noise Protection 24's (Medium) (Intl Orange)
8. Comfit, Triple Flange* 6515-00-467-0092	Insert Earplug (sized)	26dB	Plug, Ear, Noise Protection 24's (Large) (Blue)
9. Silaflex (Blister Pack) 6515-00-133-5416	Non- Hardening Silicone	26dB	Plug, Ear, Hear- ing Protection Cylindrical, Disposable 200's
10. EAR or Deci-Damp 6515-00-137-6345	Foam Plastic Insert	26dB	Plug, Ear, Hear- ing Protection Universal Size, Yellow 200 pr

ENCLOSURE (2)

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<u>Manufacturers Nomenclature/NSN</u>	<u>Type of Protector</u>	<u>EPA Noise Reduction Rating (NRR)</u>	<u>Federal Nomenclature</u>
11. Sound-Ban 6515-00-392-0726 6515-00-181-8058	Headband, Earcups	18dB	Plug, Ear, Hear- ing Protection Universal Size
12. Straightway Muffs 4240-00-759-3290 4240-00-674-5379 4240-00-979-4040	Circum- aural Muffs For 9 AN/2 For 9 AN/2	22dB	Aural Protector Sound 372-9 AN/2 Replacement Filter, Dome Replacement Seal, Dome
13. Ear Plug Case 6515-00-299-8287	N/A	N/A	Case, Earplug 12's
14. Circumaural Muff 4240-00-691-5617	Type I Overhead Headband	25dB	Aural Protector, Sound
15. Circumaural Muff 4240-00-022-2946	Type II Overhead Headband	25dB	Aural Protector, Sound

\*Requires fitting by medical personnel. Do not purchase before consulting with the Occupational Health/Preventive Medicine Department, NMCL.

ENCLOSURE (2)