

Sent to AC/S Fac

MAIN/JIW/th
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JUL 17 1979

From: Commanding General
To: Commander, Marine Corps Air Bases, Eastern Area, Cherry Point,
North Carolina 28533

Subj: Oil Spill; report of

Ref: (a) On-Site Inspection of Oil & Hazardous Substance Spill at
Bldg AS-143 & AS-117 by CMO-4 Brittan, MCAS(H), NR, &
Mr. Foll, BMaintDept, on 21 May 79
(b) Federal Water Pollution Control Act as amended
(c) MCO P11000.8A
(d) BO 11090.1A
(e) Logistic/Support Services Agreement (Rev. #1 - 1977)

1. During reference (a), a reported hazardous substance spill at MAG-26 Group Supply's open storage lot behind Building AS-143 was investigated. At this time an unrelated oil spill was discovered. Further investigation revealed Marine Wing Support Group-27, Detachment "A" was disposing of waste motor oil by dumping on the ground near Building AS-117 and into a drainage canal that empties into a tributary of New River, violating references (b), (c) and (d). It should be noted that a waste oil storage tank was located nearby for the temporary disposal of waste petroleum products.

2. Improper disposal of petroleum products is significant and serious. Reference (b) states that the Director, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), can assess civil penalties ranging from \$500 to \$5,000 per violation, in addition to criminal sanctions which could be imposed in the same matter including felony penalties with \$10,000 per day fines plus imprisonment. Under the law, each spill, however slight, is a separate violation. The law requires this activity to monitor oil pollution and report each violation to Region IV, EPA in Atlanta, Georgia, and we comply.

3. In accordance with reference (e), this letter is to officially notify you of the oil pollution problem at Marine Corps Air Station (H), New River, on 21 May 1979 and to advise of the legal implication of all oil spill events. It is requested that an inquiry be conducted to establish the facts of the incident, responsibility therefor, and measures to be taken to prevent a recurrence.

Copy to:
CO, MCAS (H)

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