241536Z DEC 03

FM DA WASHINGTON DC//DACS-ZD//
TO ALARACT
INFO CJCS WASHINGTON CD//J4//
BT
UNCLASS ALARACT
REF /A/DOC/USD(P&R)/6 AUG 02//
APMN/USD/(P&R) MEMO, SUBJ: POLICY ON ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES RELATED TO ANTHRAX VACCINE IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM (AVIP).
REF /B/DOC/VCSA/24 SEP 02//
APMN/VCSA MEMO, SUBJ: ARMY ANTHRAX VACCINE IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM RESUMPTION EXECUTION PLAN//
REF /C/MSG/HQDA/041207ZDEC02//
APMN/ALARACT MSG, SUBJ: ARMY TO BEGIN PRIORITY 3 ANTHRAX VACCINATIONS
REF/D/DOC/USD(P&R)/23 DEC 03//
APMN/USD(P&R) MEMO, SUBJ: ANTHRAX VACCINATION IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM//
SUBJ: TEMPORARILY STOP GIVING ANTHRAX IMMUNIZATIONS TO ALL DOD PERSONNEL
1. REFS A, B, AND C PROVIDED AUTHORIZATION AND IMPLEMENTATION GUIDANCE FOR RESUMPTION OF THE ANTHRAX VACCINE IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM BASED ON THREAT ANALYSIS AND AVAILABILITY OF A SAFE, FDA-APPROVED ANTHRAX VACCINE. SINCE 1998, DOD HAS SAFELY VACCINATED OVER ONE MILLION MILITARY, EMERGENCY-ESSENTIAL CIVILIANS, AND MISSION-ESSENTIAL CONTRACTOR PERSONNEL TO PROVIDE VITAL PROTECTION AGAINST ALL FORMS OF ANTHRAX DISEASE.
2. ON DECEMBER 22, 2003, THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA ISSUED A PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION AGAINST THE CURRENT OPERATION OF THE ANTHRAX VACCINE IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM. SAFETY OF THE VACCINE IS NOT THE FOCUS OF THE INJUNCTION. THE JUDGE RULED BASED ON CONCERNS ABOUT THE COMPLETENESS OF THE FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION'S (FDA) PROCESS TO APPROVE THE VACCINE FOR USE AGAINST INHALATION ANTHRAX.
3. IAW REF D, THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS ARE DIRECTED IMMEDIATELY.
A. UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE, STOP GIVING ANTHRAX VACCINATIONS TO ALL MILITARY AND CIVILIAN PERSONNEL, TO INCLUDE FAMILY MEMBERS. THIS APPLIES TO PERSONNEL NOT PREVIOUSLY VACCINATED AND PERSONNEL CURRENTLY UNDERGOING THE SIX SHOT BASIC SERIES AND ANNUAL BOOSTER. THIS APPLIES TO ALL PERSONNEL REGARDLESS OF THEIR CURRENT LOCATION. DO NOT IMPLEMENT VOLUNTARY VACCINATIONS VIA INFORMED CONSENT PROCEDURES AT THIS TIME.
B. ENSURE ALL VACCINATIONS PREVIOUSLY ADMINISTERED ARE ACCURATELY RECORDED IN THE MEDICAL RECORD AND ELECTRONICALLY SUBMITTED TO

THE DEFENSE ELIGIBILITY ENROLLMENT SYSTEM (DEERS) VIA SERVICE AUTOMATED IMMUNIZATION TRACKING SYSTEMS.
C. IMPLEMENT PUBLIC AFFAIRS ACTIONS THAT INFORM ALL PERSONNEL OF THE NECESSITY OF THIS TEMPORARY SUSPENSION PENDING THE CLARIFICATION OF THE LEGAL SITUATION. INFORM ALL PERSONNEL THAT THE FOCUS OF THE LEGAL RULING IS WHETHER THE VACCINE IS PROPERLY LICENSED FOR USE AGAINST INHALATION ANTHRAX (NOT CUTANEOUS OR GASTROINTESTINAL), AND NOT WHETHER THE VACCINE IS CONSIDERED SAFE.
D. FOR ANY PENDING MILITARY JUSTICE ISSUES, CONSULT WITH HIGHER LEGAL HEADQUARTERS.
E. MEDICAL TREATMENT FACILITIES WILL CONSOLIDATE AND REPORT THE INVENTORY OF ALL UNOPENED VIALS BY LOT NUMBER OF ANTHRAX VACCINE TO THE U.S. ARMY MEDICAL MATERIEL AGENCY (301-619-4318). UNOPENED VIALS WILL BE STORED IN PLACE UNTIL FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS ARE ISSUED.
4. HQDA POCS FOR THIS MESSAGE ARE COL JOHN GRABENSTEIN OR LTC STEVE JONES, 703-681-5101, OR EMAIL: VACCINES@OTSG.AMEDD.ARMY.MIL.
5. EXPIRATION DATE CANNOT BE DETERMINED.
BT