UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs Division
Marine Corps Base
Camp Lejeune, North Carolina 28542

IN REPLY REFER TO:
11330
NREAD(L)

Date: 2 December 1987

From: Supervisory Chemist, Environmental Chemistry and Microbiology Section, Environmental Branch, NREAD

To: The Record

Subj: PERSONAL NOTES ON LABORATORY EVENTS AND INFORMATION RELATED TO COMPLAINT SAMPLES COLLECTED FROM PP-3111 AND TT-2650.

1. On 24 Nov 1987, the weekly SDWA Bact samples were collected and turned in to the EC&MS Lab. A complaint sample from PP-3111 was in the group. The EC&MS had not received any information on the complaint prior to accepting the sample except that it was a complaint. On 2 Dec 1987, I found out that the PP-3111 complaint had been a result of the occupant being diagnosed as suffering from Giardia Lamblia and their doctor had recommended the water be analyzed. Since the lab had no "heads up" the sample had been run with the rest of the compliance samples for coliform, and it was negative.

2. On 30 Nov 87, Kellum from Water Treatment picked up an extra bact bottle for a complaint that afternoon. He did not come back. On 1 Dec 87, when Kellum delivered the fluorides he was asked about the sample, he said he gave the bottle to Billy Morton that morning to get the sample. Shortly after the operators left, Mr. Barbee, of NREAD, found the bottle in the yard outside the lab and brought it in. Mr. Morton, not having the extra bottle, used a compliance sample bottle to take the sample.

3. Information: To sample for Giardia Lamblia it requires a special filtering device to be place on the water source and collect 1900 liters over 18 to 24 hours. The filter is then analyzed.

Elizabeth A. Betz

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Marine Corps Base
Camp Lejeune, North Carolina 28542

IN REPLY REFER TO:
1133b
NREAD(L)

Date: 2 December 1987

From: Supervisory Chemist, Environmental Chemistry and Microbiology Section, Environmental Branch, NREAD

To: The Record

Subj: PERSONAL NOTES ON AN PAST CONVERSATION W/ CDR GENTRY, OF PMU, ON COMPLAINT CALLS CAUSED BY NAVAL HOSPITAL DOCTORS RECOMMENDING PATIENTS HAVE WATER ANALYZED

1. I do not remember the particular day that this conversation took place. The events that lead up to the conversation were as follows:

a. I received a call from a occupant of MCAS-NR housing who said her doctor at the Naval Hospital had diagnosed her as suffering from Giardia Lamblia and recommended she have her water tested.

b. The water was sampled by Water Treatment, I had refered her to Water Treatment because past history had showed them to be the only ones who would respond to complaints. We analyzed for coliform and it was negative.

2. I felt that since it was one of our doctors (Dept of Navy) treating a dependent living in Base housing that PMU should have handled the problem or at least been aware of the situation. So I walked across the hall and spoke to Cdr Gentry. I told him the details and expressed my concern that he had no ~~know~~ KNOWLEDGE of the situation through the Naval Hospital.

3. History Note: In the past when a patient (active duty or dependent) ~~of a~~ SEEN AT medical unit at Camp Lejeune was diagnosed as having medical problems that could be attributed to bad water and the patient lived off base, PMU would handle the situation. They would contact the County Health Dept and accompany them, collect samples with them, and follow up on behalf of the Commanding General. PMU is usually equated to the County Health Dept. No such interest is shown by PMU when the patient lives in Base Housing.

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IN REPLY REFER TO:
11330
NREAD(L)

Date: 2 December 1987

From: Supervisory Chemist, Environmental Chemistry and Microbiology Section, Environmental Branch, NREAD

To: The Record

Subj: PERSONAL NOTES ON PHONCON W/ MACK FRAZELLE, OF UTIL, BMD, AT APPROX. 0830 ON 2 DEC 87

1. After Calling Danny Sharpe, my supervisor, and notifing him of the positive coliform sample from TT-2650, I hung up the phone. It rang, I picked it up, it was Mack Frazelle.

2. Mack Frazelle stated that the operator said that TT-2650 was a mess. The residence contained five children. The sink was dirty. I asked why they had sampled, and he said because they had been called on a complaint. This is a standard statement from Water Treatment when a quarters sample comes back positive, its DIRTY.

3. I reminded Frazelle that during previous conversations Water Treatment has been told by me and Representatives of the State of North Carolina's Dept of Health not to take samples from dirty, unkept sites or from leaking faucets. The purpose for SDWA compliance monitoring is to determine if the water generated is clean and the Distribution system is clean. It is not for determining if a certain spigot is clean, therefore clean sites are to be used.

4. Dirty sinks is a sanitation problem for the Public Heatlh Dept. not a water quality problem for the Water Treatment Dept.

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NREAD(L)

Date: 2 December 1987

From: Supervisory Chemist, Environmental Chemistry and Microbiology Section, Environmental Branch, NREAD

To: The Record

Subj: PERSONAL NOTES ON PHONCON W/ Stanley Miller, OF WATER TREATMENT, BMD, at 0955 ON 2 DEC 87.

1. To gather the background information on TT-2650, I called Bldg 670 and asked for either Mack Frazelle or Stanley Miller. I got Stanley.

2. According to Water Treatment's Log they received a call on 30 November 1987 at 10:08 from Base Housing saying that the occupant of TT-2650 had been told by their doctor to have the water tested. The children were sick. Stanley inputted at this point that they had gotten a similar CALL last week, details will be described later.

3. According to Stanley, Water Treatment went out on Monday, 30 Nov 87, but no one was home. Water Treatment did not pick up a bottle from the EC&MS Lab until the afternoon. Water Treatment notified Base Housing that since no one was home on Monday they would collect the sample Tuesday. They collected the sample on Tuesday using a compliance bottle at 0900.

4. As refered to earlier, Mr. Miller also stated that the same thing happended last week. They got a call from Base Housing that the occupants of PP-3111 (the same system as TT) had been told by their doctor to have the water tested. It was collected on the compliance run but it was negative.

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From: Supervisory Chemist, Environmental Chemistry and Microbiology Section, Environmental Branch, NREAD

To: The Record

Subj: PERSONAL NOTES ON OFFICIALLY NOTIFING PMU OF WATER PROBLEM TT-2650

1. Between 0815 to 0840, I tried to notify PMU of the potential water problem at TT-2650. Cdr Gentry was gone. LtCdr Ellis and G. Reynolds (Admin. Assist) could not be found. Lt Rockford, the officer in charge of water problems was gone.

2. At 0915 I found G. Reynolds, he talked to LtCdr Ellis who referred the problem, since Lt Rockford was out, to a senior chief. Just before the conversation started Lt Rockford showed up. He tried to keep me waiting while he talked to one of his men. I stated I was only trying to notify PMU officially of a potential water problem.

3. The conversation took place while standing in his doorway. I told him of the call and positive sample of TT-2650. He said he handled something similar awhile ago. I asked if it was last week. He said yes and named a street. I asked if it was in Paradise Point and he nodded. I asked if it was PP-3111 and he agreed. He said the woman occupant had been diagnosed as suffering from Giardia Lamblia, comfirmed by lab work on her. I stated I had no knowledge of the PP-3111 situation until this morning. I told him I did not know the particulars of the sick in TT-2650. He didn't seem ~~to appare~~ to think that the children in TT-2650 could possibly have Giardia. I told him that TT and PP are in the same system. I also told him we can not test for Giardia.

Elizabeth A. Betz

11330
NREAD

Date: 2 December 1987

From: Supervisory Chemist, Environmental Chemistry and Microbiology Section, Environmental Branch, NREAD

To: Supervisory Ecologist, Environmental Branch, NREAD

Subj: Positive potable water samples

1. On 24 Nov 87, PP-3111 was sampled by Water Treatment during compliance monitoring. Water Treatment had received a call from Base Housing who said the occupant had been requested by her Naval Hospital Doctor to have the water analyzed. The sample was negative for Total Coliform. I learned from Lt Rockford, of PMU, on 2 Dec 87, that a woman living at PP-3111 had been diagnosed as suffering from Giardia lamblia by laboratory analysis.

2. On 30 Nov 87, at 10:08 Water Treatment received a call from Base Housing who said the occupant of TT-2650 had been requested by their doctor to have the water analyzed. The children were sick. Water Treatment, Mr.Kellum, picked up a bact sample bottle that afternoon but were unable to get into the house, no one was home.

3. On 1 Dec 87, Mr. Kellum turned the bact bottle over to Mr. B. Morton to get the sample. Shortly after the operators left the EC&MS Lab the bottle was found in the yard. Mr. Morton used a compliance bottle to take the sample at 0900. It was run that afternoon with the other compliance samples.

4. On 2 Dec 87, the compliance samples were screened and TT-2650 was found to have 99+ colonies of coliform, 5 or more are a positive. Hoy Burns told me and called Mr. S. Miller, at Water Treatment, for the resamples. I tried to get up with PMU, called Danny and also talked to M. Frazelle. Mack Frazelle called to say TT-2650 was filthy. I asked why did they sample then. He said because they had received a compliant. I reminded him that the State and I had recommended not to sample filthy sites for compliance.

5. The problems.

a. Because the sample was taken as a compliance sample it will have to be in the monthly report to the State which could put us in non-complinace.

b. The growth could be a result of the filth and not be a true test of water quality. This is why water treatment personnel who are sampling for water quality are recommended to sample only clean, inside sites with no leaking faucets.

c. If the doctor recommended the water analyzed why didn't the request stay within the Naval Hospital and go to their Preventive Medicine Unit (PMU); personnel familiar with public health concerns.

6. After spending a hour to find the responsible officer, I notified Lt. Rockford, of PMU, of the TT-2650 positive sample. He

mentioned PP-3111. He didn

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