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OFFICE OF THE STAFF JUDGE ADVOCATE
Marine Corps Base
Camp Lejeune, North Carolina 28542

SJA/JAJ/jms
11300
5 Oct 1978

The Base Maintenance Department of the Marine Corps Base Lejeune has seven separate water systems to supply the water to the Camp Lejeune River complex. The water supply system serving the Courthouse Bay area has been found to have a bacteria concentration above the water quality standard. Coliform bacteria within that system indicated that coliform bacteria were present. Coliform bacteria is not a disease producing organism. Its presence under conditions may be appropriate for the growth of disease producing organisms. Since subsequent testing indicated that no coliform bacteria was present, there is no cause for concern.

MEMORANDUM

From: Staff Judge Advocate

To: Base Maintenance Officer

Subj: Violations of Safe Drinking Water Act

Ref: (a) Phonecom btwn EMaint. (NatResDiv.) & OSJA (Capt JANEGA)
(b) Title 40 CFR §§141.14, 141.21 & 141.32

Encl: (1) Proposed Notice to Public

1. During reference (a) guidance and assistance was requested on behalf of the Base Maintenance Officer and the Assistant Chief of Staff, Facilities for the processing of the subject violations.
2. The respective sections of reference (b) provide the implementing instructions for the Safe Drinking Water Act. Specifically, they direct periodic testing of drinking water sources for coliform bacteria and require notification to the State of North Carolina and certain print and electronic media sources in the event a violation occurs.
3. This office talked to Mr. Charles Rundgren, who heads the state office charged with enforcing reference (b). He stated that although notice of the violation to the public is required, the specific form the notice should take is not set by law. The notice should be drafted in such a manner as to avoid creating needless worries about the quality of drinking water aboard the base.
4. Your office told us of a recent violation at Courthouse Bay. Apparently, the violation was a quirk and the problem, if one ever existed, is now solved. Nonetheless, reference (b) still requires the appropriate legal notice. Accordingly, my office has prepared the enclosure to fulfill the legal requirements. Both the form and contents of the notice have been declared sufficient for purposes of the State of North Carolina by Mr. Rundgren's office.
5. It is understood that minor violations of this nature will occasionally occur. In the future, where the violation is minor and not indicative of a wider problem with a water supply, formal review by this office need not be obtained.

J. R. MOJELEWSKI

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NOTICE OF WATER QUALITY READING

OFFICE OF THE STAFF JUDGE ADVOCATE

The Base Maintenance Department of the Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune, operates seven separate water systems to supply the water needs of the entire Camp Lejeune/New River complex. During routine testing of the system serving the Courthouse Bay area, one water sample showed a coliform bacteria concentration above the norm for that system. Subsequent water samples for coliform within that system indicated that no bacteria were present. Coliform bacteria is not a disease producing organism. Its presence merely suggests that conditions may be appropriate for the growth of other disease carrying organisms. Since subsequent testing indicated that no coliform bacteria was present, there is no cause for concern.

To: Base Maintenance Officer

The Base Maintenance Department is continuing to search for the cause of this one abnormal reading as well as to monitor all the water systems aboard the Base to ensure compliance with water quality standards and the reporting requirements set by the Public Health Service Act as amended.

Encl: (1) Proposed Notice to Public

1. During reference (a) guidance and assistance was provided to the Base Maintenance Officer and the Assistant Chief of Base Facilities for the processing of the subject violation.

2. The enclosure contains a copy of a brochure which provides the essential instructions for the safe drinking water act. Specifically, the brochure provides testing of drinking water sources for coliform bacteria and provides notification to the State of North Carolina and other print and electronic media sources in the event a violation occurs.

3. This office talked to Mr. Charles Rundgren, who heads the State office charged with enforcing reference (b). He stated that although notice of the violation to the public is required, the specific form the notice should take is not set by law. The notice should be written in such a manner as to avoid creating needless worries about the quality of drinking water aboard the base.

4. Your office told us of a recent violation at Courthouse Bay. Apparently the violation was a quirk and the problem, if one ever existed, is now solved. Nonetheless, reference (b) still requires the appropriate legal notice. Accordingly, my office has prepared the enclosure to fulfill the legal requirements. Both the form and contents of the notice have been declared sufficient for purposes of the State of North Carolina by Mr. Rundgren's office.

5. It is understood that minor violations of this nature will occasionally occur. In the future, where the violation is minor and not indicative of a wider problem with a water supply, a formal review by this office need not be obtained.

CLW

J. R. MOJELEWSKI

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