DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, EIGHTH UNITED STATES ARMY
UNIT #15236
APO AP 96204-0009

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

2 0 FEB 2002

EASF (385-64)

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Eighth United States Army Command Policy Letter #16 – Storage of Operational, Training, and Ceremonial Ammunition in Arms Rooms

1. References:

a. HQDA memorandum, DACS-SF, 13 Sep 99, subject: Storage of Operational, Training, and Ceremonial Ammunition in Arms Rooms.

b. DOD 6055.9-STD, 1 July 99, subject: DOD Ammunition and Explosives Safety Standards.

c. DA Pam 385-64, 15 Dec 99, subject: Ammunition and Explosives Safety Standards.

d. AR 190-11, 12 Feb 98, subject: Physical Security of Arms, Ammunition, and Explosives.

2. Purpose. To provide Eighth United States Army implementing guidance to HQDA memorandum at reference 1a for the storage of limited quantities of Hazard Division (HD) (04) 1.2, HD 1.3, and HD 1.4 ammunition and explosives in unit arms rooms.

3. Background. Chapter 9 of reference "b" and paragraph 5.1 of reference "c" allow for the storage of limited quantities of HD (04) 1.2, HD 1.3, and HD 1.4 ammunition and explosives, without quantity-distance requirements, in unit arms rooms, hangers, and operational buildings when operational necessity dictates such storage.

4. Discussion. Ammunition holding areas or ammunition supply points will be used unless such use adversely impacts mission readiness requirements or results in an unnecessary commitment of resources (e.g., requires unit personnel to provide 24-hour security or necessitates extended travel). For purposes of this policy, 25 miles (one way) from an established ammunition storage facility and the training area where the ammunition is to be expended is considered extended travel.

a. Authorized munitions for storage in arms rooms are limited to military typed classified HD (04) 1.2, HD 1.3, and HD 1.4. The term "limited quantities" is defined as the minimum amount of ammunition required to support operational missions (quick reaction force, security guard forces, military police, etc.) or to support the immediate training requirements of the unit owning the facility.

b. When storage in an arms room is necessary, the following time limitations on such storage apply:

(1) Units that meet the requirements in paragraph 4 may, when required and under the conditions stated in this policy, store limited quantities of HD (04) 1.2, HD 1.3, and HD 1.4 munitions inside an arms room for a limited period of time (not to exceed 7 days) to meet training requirements.

(2) Units that do not meet the requirements in paragraph 4 may, when required and under the conditions stated in this policy, store limited quantities of HD 1.4 munitions inside an arms room overnight and, when absolutely necessary, over a long weekend (not to exceed 72 hours).

(3) Units that have Quick Reaction Force type missions may store limited quantities of HD (04) 1.2, HD 1.3, and HD 1.4 munitions inside an arms room for the time required to meet mission requirements as specified in the mission statement.

(4) Units with missions requiring HD (04) 1.2, HD 1.3, and HD 1.4 munitions as stated in this policy may request to extend storage times to coincide with mission requirements. Requests will be forwarded through the supporting Area safety office to Headquarters, Eighth United States Army, ATTN: EASF.

c. Responsibilities:

(1) Supporting area commanders will approve the storage requests based on operational necessity and safety considerations. The approval authority will consider the need to expose the minimum number of personnel to the minimum amount of explosives for the minimum amount of time possible. The requesting unit or activity will prepare a risk assessment and coordinate their ammunition storage license with the supporting area safety, logistics, security, fire protection, and ammunition surveillance personnel before submission. The approved risk assessment will be posted at the arms room and all arms room personnel will be briefed, at least quarterly, on its contents.

Approved risk assessments will be reviewed quarterly, and during heightened security postures, by the requesting organization to evaluate risk potential and control measures.

(2) Commanders will ensure that physical security requirements of reference 1d are implemented commensurate with ammunition physical security classification

d. Facilities and Requirements:

(1) The facility must be properly licensed for explosives storage. The license will specify the location approved for storage; the quantity of ammunition by Department of Defense Identification Code; time restrictions on storage; and safety, security, and fire protection inspection requirements. The supporting area safety office and quality assurance specialist (ammunition surveillance) will review the site licenses.

(2) The appropriate fire and/or chemical hazard symbols will be properly posted, and each storage location will have a minimum of one serviceable 10 BC fire extinguisher readily available.

e. Storage Requirements:

(1) Storage will be consistent with the safety requirements of reference "1c" and the security requirements of reference "1d" (see paragraph 5-8c(1)(a)). The use of metal storage containers or cabinets is required and ammunition will be stored under the same criteria as it would in an approved ammunition storage facility. Arms rooms without sufficient space for metal storage containers will store ammunition in original sealed outer packs. Considerations in determining the amount of munitions will be based on specific mission requirements, composition of the unit, and adequacy of storage space.

(2) Ammunition will be stored in approved Department of Transportation packaging. Ammunition containers and packaging are considerations in determining a munition's HD. Where practical, munitions will be stored in their original container with original packaging. Otherwise, an explosives safety site plan is required.

(3) Munitions will be stored in accordance with storage compatibility requirements as outlined in reference1c, Chapter 4.

(4) No combustibles, solvents, petroleum products, or radioactive materials will be stored in the vicinity of the ammunition. Ammunition will be separated to the greatest

extent possible (within the arms room) from dissimilar hazardous materials. Where feasible, units will remove dissimilar hazardous materials while ammunition is stored in the arms room.

(5) When HD (04) 1.2 is stored in an arms room, fragment barriers will be provided. Minimum acceptable fragment barriers are ¼ inch of mild steel plate, one layer of sandbags, or 12 inches of loose sand or dirt. Fragment protection will be 3-dimensional (including the bottom of the explosive packages) to reduce fragments associated with explosive spall. At no time will fragmentation barriers be omitted where warranted by hazard class and division.

f. Net Explosive Weight (NEW) Limitations:

(1) The NEW may not exceed 50 pounds for HD (04) 1.2, 100 pounds for HD 1.3, and limited quantities (operationally necessary) for HD 1.4. Guidance for calculating NEW when HDs are mixed is contained in paragraph 5-2, reference 1c.

(2) Storage of ceremonial ammunition is not considered an operational necessity. However, a limited quantity of HD 1.3 ceremonial ammunition (e.g., 75 mm blank, 105 mm blank) may be stored in an arms room provided no other practical alternative exists. The amount of HD 1.3 stored will not exceed 100 pounds NEW or one full outer pack of ammunition.

(3) Requests for waivers or exemptions to exceed NEW limitations will be submitted through command channels for approval to Headquarters, Eighth United States Army, ATTN: EASF. Requests will contain supporting documentation, to include a risk assessment identifying appropriate control measures to reduce or eliminate hazards to the lowest reasonable level. Waivers will be forwarded to the Eighth Army Command Safety Office at least 90 days prior to the requesting unit's required approval date.

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Commanding

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