

//UNCLASSIFIED//

211433Z Dec 15

FROM CDR JMC ROCK ISL IL//AMSJM-QAS//740 (A)

SUBJECT: AMMUNITION INFORMATION NOTICE (AIN) 021-16, PEN FLARE URGENT REQUIREMENT - ORION SIGNALS

1. AIN 020-16 WAS TRANSMITTED ON 101628Z Dec 15

2. THIS AIN SUPERSEDES AIN 021-14.

3. DODICS: L118, L132, L133, L225, L226, L227, L228, L235, L236, L237, L238, L305, L306, L307, L311, L312, L314

4. REFERENCES:

A. AR 5-13, 17 DEC 2009 TOTAL ARMY MUNITIONS REQUIREMENTS PROCESS AND PRIORITIZATION SYSTEM.

B. AR 700-142, 17 JAN 13, TYPE CLASSIFICATION, MATERIAL RELEASE, FIELDING, AND TRANSFER.

C. AR 385-10, 23 AUG 07, THE ARMY SAFETY PROGRAM.

D. DA PAM 385-64, 10 Oct 13, AMMUNITION AND EXPLOSIVES SAFETY STANDARDS.

E. 31 U.S. CODE 1301 AND 31 US CODE 11.

F. TB 9-1370-215-12, 15 DEC 05, OPERATOR AND UNIT INFORMATION FOR SIGNAL ILLUMINATION: KIT, VARIOUS COLOR, MK135 MOD 1 AND SIGNAL KIT, PERSONNEL DISTRESS: RED COLOR, MK79 MOD 2.

5. THE ORION SIGNALS BEING PROCURED COMMERCIALY HAVE NOT BEEN AUTHORIZED FOR ARMY USE. SAFETY TESTING HAS NOT BEEN CONDUCTED TO CERTIFY THESE ITEMS FOR USE OUTSIDE OF THEIR ORIGINAL DESIGN. THESE ITEMS ARE MARITIME, SEARCH AND RESCUE SIGNALS THAT HAVE NOT BEEN ASSESSED FOR HORIZONTAL FIRING IN DESERT ENVIRONMENTS. FIRING THESE ITEMS FROM TACTICAL WEAPONS CAN CAUSE SERIOUS PERSONAL INJURY AND DAMAGE TO PROPERTY.

6. SOME OF THE ESSENTIAL SAFETY TESTS WE EMPLOY AS PART OF AN URGENT MATERIEL RELEASE (UMR) INCLUDES, ROUGH HANDLING AND VIBRATION TESTS, HIGH TEMPERATURE STORAGE, AND SOLAR RADIATION. THESE TESTS ADDRESS THE UNIQUE ARMY APPLICATION AND DEGRADATION OF MATERIALS IN A DESERT ENVIRONMENT. IN ADDITION, THESE COMMERCIAL ITEMS ARE DESIGNED FOR DISTRESS USE; THEY ARE NOT DESIGNED TO BE TRANSPORTED IN THE LOADED AND ARMED CONFIGURATION FOR SUSTAINED PERIODS IN A DETERRENCE ROLE. THE SAFETY MECHANISMS WITHIN THE DESIGN OF A LOADED & ARMED ORION SIGNAL HAVE ALSO NOT BEEN VALIDATED IN THE OPERATIONAL CONTEXT IN WHICH VIBRATION OF VEHICLES IN A DESERT ENVIRONMENT COULD CAUSE SAFETY MECHANISMS TO FAIL. THESE ORION SIGNALS CAN POSE SIGNIFICANT RISKS TO THE SAFETY OF THE USER IN ESCALATION OF FORCE MEASURES.

7. TO SUPPORT ESCALATION OF FORCE MEASURES, PEN FLARE SOLUTIONS HAVE BEEN MADE AVAILABLE. THEY ARE ONE HANDED OPERATION ITEMS, WHICH ARE AUTHORIZED TO FIRE AT VEHICLES

NO CLOSER THAN 10 METERS. THE USER SHALL NOT FIRE IN ENCLOSED AREA. US ARMY PERSONNEL ARE AUTHORIZED THE USE OF FOLLOWING PEN FLARE SIGNALS:

- A. MK135 MOD 1, SIGNAL, KIT, ILLUMINATION VARI-COLOR (DODIC L131; NSN 1370-01-230-3973).
- B. MK79 MOD 2, SIGNAL KIT, PERSONNEL DISTRESS (DODIC L118; NSN 1370-01-230-3974).

8. PROJECT MANAGER CLOSE COMBAT SYSTEMS (PM-CCS) HAS ALSO MADE THE ADDITIONAL PEN FLARE CONFIGURATIONS AVAILABLE AS OF MAY 2006:

- A. MK108 MOD 1, SIGNAL KIT, ILLUMINATION, GREEN KIT (DODIC L132; NSN 1370-01-211-2564)
- B. MK142 MOD 0, SIGNAL KIT, ILLUMINATION, WHITE KIT (DODIC L133; NSN 1370-01-211-2565)

9. THE PEN FLARE SOLUTIONS ARE INTENDED TO ADDRESS THE ISSUES RAISED WITH THE FAMILY OF HAND HELD SIGNALS USED IN ESCALATION OF FORCE MEASURES. THE FAMILY OF HAND HELD SIGNALS INCLUDES M125A1 (DODIC L314), M158 (DODIC L306), M159 (DODIC L307), M126A1 (DODIC L311), M127A1 (L312), M195 (DODIC L305).

10. US ARMY PERSONNEL CAN ALSO EMPLOY AIRCRAFT SIGNALS IN CONJUNCTION WITH AN-M8 PISTOLS. THE FOLLOWING ARE AUTHORIZED FOR ARMY USE:

- A. M37/M38/M39/M40: AIRCRAFT SIGNALS, DOUBLE-STARS (DODIC L225/L226/L227/L228)
- B. M43/M45: AIRCRAFT SIGNALS, SINGLE-STARS (DODIC L231/L233)
- C. M54/M55/M56/M57: AIRCRAFT SIGNALS, DOUBLE-STARS W/TRACERS (DODIC L235/L236/L237/L238)

11. AR 5-13, COVERS THE CURRENT ARMY POLICY ON THE PROCEDURES FOR PURCHASE OF NON-STANDARD AMMUNITION AND EXPLOSIVES. USERS AT ALL LEVELS ARE REMINDED THAT THE DEVELOPMENT OF THIS POLICY CENTERED ON THE SAFETY OF THE SOLDIER WHEN PROCURING NON-STANDARD AMMUNITION AND EXPLOSIVES. DEVIATION FROM THIS POLICY PRESENTS REAL AND POTENTIAL HAZARDS TO BOTH LIFE AND PROPERTY.

12. UNITS CURRENTLY IN POSSESSION OF COMMERCIALY PURCHASED FLARES WILL IMMEDIATELY TURN-IN ASSETS TO THEIR SUPPORTING ASP AND REQUEST AN APPROVED SIGNAL FROM THOSE LISTED ABOVE.

13. TECHNICAL POC IS MR. HARVARD YUEN, SFAE-AMO-CCS, DSN 880-7757, EMAIL: HARVARD.YUEN.CIV@MAIL.MIL; POC FOR DISTRIBUTION IS MICHAEL A. BELMARES, AMSJM-QAS, DSN 793-8489, E-MAIL: MICHAEL.A.BELMARES.CIV@MAIL.MIL

14. THIS AIN EXPIRES 31 DEC 2016 UNLESS OTHERWISE RESCINDED OR SUPERSEDED.

//SIGNED//

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