

**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
UNITED STATES ARMY PUBLIC HEALTH COMMAND
ARMY INSTITUTE PUBLIC HEALTH VETERINARY SERVICES**

**OPERATIONAL RATIONS INSPECTION PROCEDURE (OPRATS IP09)
1 March 2013**

Meal Alternative Regionally Customized Inspection

1.0 **PURPOSE:** To establish standardized procedures for Meal Alternative Regionally Customized (MARC) inspections.

2.0 **SCOPE:**

2.1 This document applies to Army Veterinary Inspectors (AVI) assigned to post, camp, or stations with responsibility for performing receipt, in-storage, warranty, prior to issue, and special inspections of MARCs.

2.2 This document discusses procedures and inspection guidance not covered in Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) Troop Support Handbook 4155.2 and related appendices.

3.0 **DEFINITIONS:**

3.1 DLA Troop Support Handbook 4155.2

3.2 DLA Troop Support Handbook 4155.2, Appendix A

3.3 Meal, Alternative Regionally Customized (MARC). A self-contained, shelf stable meal that was developed by the U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command (SBCCOM)/Natick, Individual Combat Ration Team (ICRT), Combat Feeding Directorate (CFD) after receiving an urgent request from the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) to expedite the development of a suitable vegetarian ration with unique dietary and component requirements designed specifically for detainees at Guantanamo Bay Naval Base (GTMO). The ICRT collaborated closely with Defense Logistics Agency-Troop Support and the U.S. Navy food service personnel at Guantanamo Bay (GTMO) to determine salient performance characteristics and calorie requirements to maximize nutritional benefit and identify component restrictions. While created out of a need to support GTMO detainees, the meal may be used for other detainees also.

3.4 There are 10 different luncheon entrée menus containing food components familiar to Southwest Asian/Middle East populations and each is packaged in a single meal bag. Each case contains 10 meals, 1 of each menu.

3.5 The MARC is NOT kosher or halal certified.

3.6 Shelf life – Minimum from time of product assembly:

3.6.1 Minimum – 12 months at 80 degrees Fahrenheit.

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3.6.2 Contractors will ship the MARC with no less than 9 months shelf-life remaining.

3.7 Nutritional data - Each MARC meal bag provides a minimum of 700 calories (Protein 9-15%, Fat 25-30%, and Carbohydrate NLT 60%).

3.8 USAPHC Oprats IP02.

4.0 REFERENCES:

4.1 DLA Troop Support Handbook 4155.2

4.2 DLA Troop Support Handbook 4155.2, Appendix A

4.3 DSCP website, <https://www.troopsupport.dla.mil/subs/rations/programs/index.asp>
select "MENU" for additional information and guidance

4.4 MEDCOM Regulation 40-28

4.5 MEDCOM Pamphlet 40-13

4.6 Natick Pamphlet 30-25, 8th Edition

4.7 DLA Technical Data Packet for Meal Alternative Regionally Customized

4.8 USAPHC Handbook 40-3, Installation Support Plan (ISP) Program

NOTE: The Technical Data Packet for MARC is referenced for information only and may be useful during the inspection.

NOTE: The majority of the components for a MARC are the same components found in a MRE except the main entree.

5.0 PROCEDURES:

NOTE: DLA Troop Support Handbook 4155.2, Appendix A and its monographs will be the primary inspection document to conduct this inspection. So when you see an "IAW Table" referenced in this IP it is referring to Appendix A.

5.1 General Examination for Transportation Damage/Obvious Defects.

5.1.1 A complete receipt inspection is not required if a current inspection report accompanies the shipment. Inspect the shipment only for transportation damage / obvious defects.

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5.1.2 MARC shipments delivered to various installations directly from the MRE assembly plant (Wornick, Ameriquel, and Sopakco) does not require a complete receipt inspection. Inspect these deliveries only for transportation damage/obvious defects. Included in this group are the rations that were shipped from the MRE assemblers to Tracy or Mechanicsburg Depot for further shipment to an installation.

5.1.3 In the event that a transportation damage or obvious defect that may affect the product is observed the AVI will perform a complete receipt inspection.

5.2 Types and Frequency of Inspections.

5.2.1 Receipt Inspection – IAW DLA Troop Support Handbook 4155.2, Paragraph VIII. A.

5.2.2 In-storage Inspection – IAW DLA Troop Support Handbook 4155.2, Paragraph VIII. B.

5.2.3 Warranty Inspection – IAW DLA Troop Support Handbook 4155.2, Paragraph VIII. C.

5.2.4 Prior to Sale or Shipment (Surveillance) Inspection – IAW DLA Troop Support Handbook 4155.2, Paragraph VIII. D.

5.2.5 Special Inspection – IAW DSCP Handbook 4155.2, Paragraph VIII.E.

5.3 Formation of Lots. IAW DLA Troop Support Handbook 4155.2, Appendix A.

5.3.1 Normal Inspection.

5.3.1.1 Table A (for use with Table C) – Lot size for “shipping containers” shall be the total number of cases.

5.3.1.1.1 Since the DLA Troop Support Handbook 4155.2, Appendix A does not distinguish procedures for disproportionate lots of “A” and “B” boxes, using Table A to draw the samples for the MARC is simple. When utilizing a hard copy of DSCP Form 5117 to record inspection results, follow the proceeding procedures:

5.3.1.1.1.1 The “Lot Size” for Tables A and B is expressed as “cases”. The total number of cases in the lot is the lot size. From the lot size obtain the “Sample Size” and the corresponding “Action Numbers” for the lot using Table A or Table B respectively.

5.3.1.1.1.2 The “Lot Size” for Tables D, E, H, and I will remain as “menus”. The total number of cases will be added together and multiplied by 10 menus (i.e. 45 cases X 10 menus per case = 450 menus).

5.3.1.2 Tables D and H (for use with Tables F, G and J) - Lot size for “menu bags and contents to include accessory bags and contents, and destructive open package inspection (DOPI)” shall be the total number of ration menus.

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5.3.2 Special Inspection. Determine lot size IAW DSCPH 4155.2, Appendix A, Paragraph 3, Special Inspection Guidance.

5.4 Sampling Plan. IAW DLA Troop Support Handbook 4155.2, Appendix A.

5.4.1 Normal Inspection.

5.4.1.1 Table A – The sample unit for “shipping containers” is one MARC case.

5.4.1.2 Tables D and H – The sample unit for “menu bags and contents to include accessory bags and contents, and destructive open package inspection (DOPI)” is one ration menu. Sample menus will be drawn from the case in direct proportion to their lot size.

NOTE: Unlike the MRE, the MARC does not contain an accessory packet.

5.4.2 Special Inspection. Determine lot size IAW DLA Troop Support Handbook 4155.2, Appendix A, Paragraph 3, Special Inspection Guidance.

5.5 Performing the Inspection. Perform IAW DSCPH 4155.2, Appendix A, with the following modification:

5.5.1 Table C, Defect Number 616 (Minor) does not apply. The MARC shipping container does not have a TTI.

5.5.2 Monographs. Use the same monographs used for MREs at <https://www.troopsupport.dla.mil/subs/support/qapubs/appa/mono-a.asp>. Use the closest MRE monograph to the MARC components without an exact monograph. Use best judgment on MARC components that does not have similar (closest) MRE monograph.

5.5.3 Table M - Component and Classification List.
<http://www.troopsupport.dla.mil/subs/support/qapubs/appa/index.asp>

5.5.3 Table S - Component and Classification List.
<http://www.troopsupport.dla.mil/subs/support/qapubs/appa/index.asp>

5.6 Shelf Life Extensions/Scheduling of Inspections.

5.6.1 At three month interval once the ITD has been reached but the ration is still in Condition Code A.

5.6.2 At one month interval once the ration has been placed in Condition Code B.

5.7 Nonconformance Reporting – Perform IAW DLA Troop Support Handbook 4155.2, and DLA Troop Support Handbook 4155.2, Appendix A.

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6.0 RECORDS, REPORTS AND FORMS:

6.1 DSCP Form 5117

6.2 Maintain a copy of the completed DSCP Form 5117 in the local file.

6.3 DO NOT post MARC inspections in the Lotus Notes MRE Inspection Database.

6.4 A CVR will be completed for each ration inspection to establish a record in the ISP application and capture the manpower required.