



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF, G-4
500 ARMY PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20310-0500

20 NOV 2012

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SUBJECT: Over-Aged Operational Ration Extension Policy for Army Owned Rations

1. Operational rations owned by Army that have met or exceeded the Inspection Test Date (ITD) will be allowed a one-time extension provided by Veterinary Food Inspectors.
2. Authorized guidelines to request an extension for US Army Veterinary Service is as follows:
 - (a) For Meals Ready-to-Eat and other individual operational rations, foodservice management personnel will request an extension no longer than six month.
 - (b) Perishable products no more than 45 days.
 - (c) Semi-perishable products no more than 90 days.
3. Foodservice management personnel will request a Subsistence Serviceability Certificate at the end of the extended shelf life from Veterinary Service.
4. Foodservice personnel will discard all commercial items in modules with an expired open code date and transfer usable items to dining facilities for immediate consumption at the end of the shelf life extension.
5. Foodservice management personnel must remain vigilant and aware of rations exposed to extreme temperature fluctuations which will shorten the shelf life. This will jeopardize the quality and accelerate a Vet inspection prior to the ITD.
6. Theater Food Advisors and Senior Veterinary personnel will coordinate for exception on issues related to OPTEMPO, stock levels and food risk evaluation when low inventory status is in question.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John C. Skelly", is positioned above the typed name.

John C. Skelly
DAC, GS-15
Acting Chief, Food Liquid Logistics, and
Field Services Division