SECRETARY OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON

10 FEB 2011

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Prohibited Substances (Spice in Variations)

1. Purpose. The purpose of this memorandum is to establish an Army-wide policy prohibiting the use and possession of synthetic cannabis and other THC substitutes. This policy remains in effect until rescinded or superseded.

2. References.

a. DoD Directive 1010.4, *Drug and Alcohol Abuse by DoD Personnel*, 11 January 1999.

b. AR 600-85, *The Army Substance Abuse Program*, 2 February 2009.

c. Uniform Code of Military Justice (2008).

3. Applicability. This policy is applicable to the Active Army, the Army National Guard of the United States when in Title 10 status, and the U.S. Army Reserve. This policy is punitive and violations of the provisions of this policy may result in punitive actions against Service members. This policy does not apply to alcohol, caffeine, tobacco or lawfully-used prescription medications.

4. Background. Synthetic cannabis and other THC substitutes have no known application other than mimicking the effects of THC in the human body. Numerous synthetic THC substitutes are now available on the open market in many states. Synthetic cannabis and THC substitutes are used in drugs such as "Spice," which is designed and sold solely to be used as a means to produce excitement, intoxication and/or stupefaction of the central nervous system. Synthetic cannabis and THC substitutes are so closely related in action to THC as to make it obvious that synthetic cannabis and THC substitutes will have the same potential for abuse as THC. It is, therefore, reasonable to assume that synthetic cannabis and THC substitutes have substantial capabilities of creating hazards to the mission of the Army, the health of the user and to the safety of the Army community.

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5. Prohibition. All personnel listed in paragraph 3 above are prohibited from, without proper authorization, using, possessing, manufacturing, selling, distributing, importing into or exporting from the United States, or introducing into any installation, vessel, vehicle, or aircraft used by or under the control of the Army: Any controlled substance analogue or homologue such as "Spice" or similar substances containing synthetic cannabis, any THC substitute, or any synthetic cannabinoid. This prohibition will be included in the next revision of AR 600-85, The Army Substance Abuse Program and such other regulations as required.

6. Point of contact for this memorandum is Dr. Les McFarling at 703-681-5577 or email Les.McFarling@us.army.mil. The G-1 action Officer is Mr. Buddy Horne at 703-681-5576 or email buddy.horne@us.army.mil.

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