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**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
THIRD MEDICAL COMMAND (FORWARD)
MEDICAL SUPPORT OPERATIONS
CAMP DOHA, KUWAIT**

AFRC-MCGA-FWD

MEMORANDUM FOR: ARCENT Force Health Protection Officer

THRU: DCS Med Spt Ops, 3d MedCom

SUBJECT: Inspection and Treatment of Detainees for Lice

1. References:

a. Technical Information Manual No. 6, Armed Forces Pest Management Board, Delousing Procedures for the Control of Louse-borne Disease During Contingency Operations (http://www.acq.osd.mil/afpmb/coweb/guidance_targets/tech_pest_guides/TIM6/TIM6.pdf).

b. AR 190-8, Enemy Prisoners of War, Retained Personnel, Civilian Internees and Other Detainees, 1 Nov 1997. (Paragraph 6-6 relates to civilian internees and states that the medical officer is responsible for detecting vermin infestation and controlling communicable diseases.)

2. Background: Lice are a common problem among displaced persons and detainees. Two of the kinds of lice, head lice and crab lice, are significant nuisances because of their bites and the consequent itching, but they do not transmit any infectious diseases. These species easily move from infested to non-infested people during direct contact or when articles of clothing are exchanged. The third species of human louse, the body louse, is much more dangerous. It transmits three significant diseases: epidemic typhus, relapsing fever, and trench fever. Epidemic typhus is a fatal disease that is transmitted with historical production dispersed by epidemics. Head and crab louse treatment is a medical, not entomological, function. Infested individuals should be isolated from the rest of the detained population until they are free from lice. Otherwise, there is the danger that the infestation will spread while detainees are awaiting treatment.

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4. Unlike the other two species of human lice, the body louse spends most of its time in the patient's clothing. It lays eggs in seams. As a result, treatment of the human body does not end an infestation.

5. If possible, a non-governmental organization (NGO) should be used to delouse detainees. If this task cannot be performed by an NGO, the procedure for controlling body lice in a population of detainees is as follows:

a. STEP 1: Screen detainees for lice before they enter the facility. (Initial instruction may require the services of a professional entomologist).

b. STEP 2: Without separating family members, isolate infested individuals.

c. STEP 3: Evaluate infested individuals for disease, including designating them for 30 days of observation. People may show no signs or symptoms of louse-borne disease for 30 days after initial infection.

d. STEP 4: Have the infested detainees strip, placing all clothing and bedding in their possession in a labeled bag. The detainees should then bathe thoroughly with soap and shampoo. When bathing is completed, they should be given fresh, clean clothes or a disposable coverall.

e. STEP 5: Lice in the clothing and bedding must be killed. This may be accomplished by any of the following methods:

(1) Treatment of outer clothing with permethrin, only if the outer clothing is field clothing worn over undershirt and underwear (ENC).

(2) Wash bedding and clothing at least 15 minutes at a temperature of at least 130°F (54°C). This temperature may not be suitable for woolen clothing, which should be washed at a lower temperature not lethal to lice. Lice in woolen clothing should be killed with method (4) or (5).

(3) Dry clothing for 15 minutes at a temperature of at least 140°F (60°C).

(4) Place in heated room for at least one hour at 158°F (70°C). Clothing and bedding must be hung up and not packed tightly so that hot air can circulate freely through the cloth.

(5) Dry clean.

(6) Immerse clothing and bedding in water at a temperature of at least 130°F (54°C), agitating for 15 minutes.


(7) Return louse-free clothing to detainees and direct them to an area of the facility with no louse-infested individuals. Louse-borne infections are not directly contagious between people except when lice are present, therefore it is safe for those under medical treatment to return to areas with other detainees.

6. Safety measures for personnel exposed to louse-infested detainees. Personnel examining detainees for lice or working with infested clothing need to protect themselves from louse infestation and typhus infection (possible from direct inhalation of louse parts or louse feces). The

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following safety measures should be used: wear latex gloves, wear a disposable respirator (surgical mask), use the DoD repellent system (topical DEET repellent on exposed skin and permethrin treated clothing, ENC), perform self checks for lice, and be alert for febrile symptoms typical of louse-borne diseases.

ENC
PPM Guidance.


COL, MS
Theater Entomologist

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ENC 1

Guidance for Personal Protective Measures Against Arthropods in Enduring Freedom Theater

General

Individual soldiers can avoid most bites from mosquitoes, sand flies, ticks, and other biting arthropods by using a combination of four techniques: application of topical repellent on exposed skin, application of permethrin on fabric, wearing the uniform properly (sleeves down, trousers bloused into boots), and sleeping under a bed net. See Guide to Staying Healthy, CHPPM GTA 03-05-062

~~(http://www.acq.osd.mil/afpmb/ins/repel-sys/ins/repel-sys-gta08-05-062.pdf)~~ and of Military Significance, AFPMB Technical Information Memorandum #36

([http://www.acq.osd.mil/afpmb/coweb/guidance_targets/ppms/TIM36/DoD Ins Repel Sys](http://www.acq.osd.mil/afpmb/coweb/guidance_targets/ppms/TIM36/DoD_Ins_Repel_Sys)).

Products

Topical repellent:

Insect Repellent, personal application (3M7/EPA 58007-1), 33% DEET, 12 2-oz, NSN 6840-01-284-3982

Permethrin for fabric:

Insect repellent, clothing application, 40% permethrin (IDA), 12 kits/box, NSN 6840-01-345-0237

Insect repellent, clothing application, aerosol, 0.5% permethrin (Permethrin Arthropod Repellent), 12 6-oz cans/box, NSN

6840-01-278-336 Battle Dress Uniforms:

BDU Type XI: Insect Repellent Treated *Desert Camouflage* BDUs

TROUSERS		COAT	
SIZE-LENGTH	NSN	SIZE-LENGTH	NSN
XS-XS	8415-01-453-2860	XS-XS	8415-01-453-1348
XS-S	8415-01-453-3008	XS-S	8415-01-453-1393
XS-R	8415-01-453-3035	XS-R	8415-01-453-1435
XS-L	8415-01-453-3045	XS-L	8415-01-453-1454
S-XS	8415-01-453-3209	S-XXS	8415-01-453-1478
S-S	8415-01-453-3219	S-XS	8415-01-453-1496
S-R	8415-01-453-3226	S-S	8415-01-453-2034
S-L	8415-01-453-3239	S-R	8415-01-453-2036
M-XS	8415-01-453-3290	S-L	8415-01-453-2047
M-S	8415-01-453-3306	S-XL	8415-01-453-2054
M-R	8415-01-453-3313	M-XXS	8415-01-453-2128
M-L	8415-01-453-3318	M-XS	8415-01-453-2135
M-XL	8415-01-453-3322	M-S	8415-01-453-2153
M-XXL	8415-01-453-3333	M-R	8415-01-453-2179
L-S	8415-01-453-3340	M-L	8415-01-453-2298
L-R	8415-01-453-3347	M-XL	8415-01-453-2301
L-L	8415-01-453-3354	M-XXL	8415-01-453-2472
L-XL	8415-01-453-3762	L-XS	8415-01-453-2482
L-XXL	8415-01-453-3824	L-S	8415-01-453-2547
XL-S	8415-01-453-3863	L-R	8415-01-453-2577
XL-R	8415-01-453-3869	L-L	8415-01-453-2619
XL-L	8415-01-453-3873	L-XL	8415-01-453-2628
XL-XL	8415-01-453-3998	L-XXL	8415-01-453-2636
XL-XXL	8415-01-453-4024	XL-S	8415-01-453-2821
		XL-R	8415-01-453-2832
		XL-L	8415-01-453-2853

Bed net

Insect net protector, cot type, EA, NSN 7210-00-266-9736
 Poles, folding cot, insect net protector, 4 poles/set, NSN 7210-00-267-5641

Product Use

Topical repellent: To be used on exposed skin according to label instructions when there is a danger of insect, chigger, or
Permethrin for fabric: To repel flying insects from the uniform and to prevent ticks and chiggers from biting. Duration of permethrin in the BDU is greatest for factory-treated uniforms (six months), next best for Individual Dynamic Absorption (IDA) treated uniforms (three to six months), and least for spray-can treated uniforms (three to six launderings). Before entering tick or chigger-infested areas, the outer part of the boot, socks, and lower trousers may be sprayed lightly with permethrin to provide extra protection.

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Bed nets: To be used when sleeping to prevent bites from flying insects. On a cot, the net may be supported by poles and tucked under the sleeping bag to provide a complete barrier. On the ground or in a bed, the net may be suspended from its four corners using string attached to trees or household objects. The bottom of the net must be tucked under bedclothes, mattress or sleeping bag to

Distribution (as a minimum six months deployment)

In CONUS prior to deployment

For each soldier

Procure factory-treated uniforms or treat all uniforms with IDA kit. Issue at least one tube of topical repellent to each soldier. Issue additional tube of topical repellent for each month that soldier will be deployed in an area with mean monthly temperature $\geq 60^{\circ}\text{F}$ or greater.

In EF Theater

For each soldier deployed without repellent, permethrin-treated uniforms with IDA kits

OR treat all uniforms with permethrin spray-can, once each month. Issue at least one tube of topical repellent to each soldier. Issue additional tube of topical repellent for each month that soldier will be deployed in an area with mean monthly temperature $\geq 60^{\circ}\text{F}$ or greater.