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I MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE  
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13 JUL 2020

From: Commanding General, I Marine Expeditionary Force  
To: Distribution List

Subj: REMOVAL OF PUBLIC DISPLAYS OF THE CONFEDERATE BATTLE FLAG

Ref: (a) Commandant of the Marine Corps Letter, dtd 20 April 2020  
(b) MARADMIN 331/20  
(c) Manual for Courts-Martial (2019 Edition)  
(d) DoDI 5200.08 w/CH3, dtd 20 November 2015

Encl: (1) Confederate Battle Flag Guidance

1. Situation. Per references (a) and (b), the Commandant of the Marine Corps has directed commanders to identify and remove the display of the Confederate Battle Flag or its depiction within work places, common access areas, and public areas on their installations. This order is a punitive lawful general order.

2. Mission. I Marine Expeditionary Force (MEF) commanders will follow the guidance in references (a) and (b), and shall remove the Confederate Battle Flag from all work places, common access areas, and public areas in order to support our core values, ensure unit cohesion and security, and preserve good order and discipline.

3. Execution

a. Commander's Intent and Concept of Operations

(1) Commander's Intent. Commanders of I MEF Major Subordinate Commands (MSC) and Major Subordinate Elements (MSE) shall ensure that the Confederate Battle Flag is removed from all I MEF work places, common access areas, and public areas in order to support our core values, ensure unit cohesion and security, and preserve good order and discipline.

(2) Concept of Operations. I MEF MSC and MSE commanders shall review the references and conduct inspections within their work places, common access areas, and public areas in order to ensure that the Confederate Battle Flag is completely removed.

b. Subordinate Element Missions

(1) Commanders shall educate their personnel on the contents of references (a) and (b), as well as the intent behind the inspections.

(2) Commanders shall conduct inspections of authorized areas and order the removal of any depiction or display of the Confederate Battle Flag.

(3) Authorized inspection areas include, but are not limited to, the following areas:

(a) Office buildings, facilities, naval vessels, aircraft, government vehicles, hangars, ready rooms, conference rooms, individual offices, cubicles, storage rooms, tool and equipment rooms, workshops, break

rooms, galleys, recreational areas, commissaries, Navy and Marine Corps Exchanges, and heads.

(b) Sensitive Compartmented Information Facilities and other secure facilities.

(c) Open-bay barracks, shipboard berthing, and common areas of barracks and bachelor quarters.

(d) All areas in public or plain view. For example, the outside area of a work office building, store, or barracks, to include parking lots. The front yard or external porch of government owned or government operated housing and Public Private Venture (PPV) housing. This includes, but is not limited to, depictions of the Confederate Battle Flag on automobile bumper stickers, clothing, and other apparel.

(e) Commanders will not inspect inside assigned individual barracks rooms or living quarters, assigned desk drawers, assigned cabinet drawers, assigned lockers, backpacks, private automobiles, government owned or government operated housing and PPV housing.

c. Coordinating Instructions

(1) Commanders shall consult with their Staff Judge Advocate on any questionable circumstances concerning the implementation of references (a), (b), and this order.

(2) Commanding Generals may, but are not required to, issue additional written orders regarding the implementation of references (a), (b), and this order. Coordination with the I MEF Staff Judge Advocate is required if further written orders are published.

(3) Reference (b) contains the applicable definition of the Confederate Battle Flag and exceptions to the display of the Confederate Battle Flag. Note that the exceptions contained in reference (b) are not exhaustive, as it is impossible to list every possible exception that may apply. Commanders encountering questionable situations shall consult with their Staff Judge Advocate.

(4) Enclosure (1) contains additional guidance.

4. Administration and Logistics. Distribution of this order will be made by electronic means to MSCs, MSEs and I MEF principal staff.

5. Command and Signal

a. Command. This order is applicable to all I MEF commands.

b. Signal. This order is effective upon the date of signature.

  
J. L. OSTERMAN

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