



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
COMMANDING OFFICER, STAFF ENLISTED PERSONNEL
UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
250 MAKALAPA DRIVE
PEARL HARBOR, HAWAII 96860-3131

IN REPLY REFER TO:

5830

Ser N00 1232

23 Nov 21

From: Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet
To: RDML Christopher J. Cavanagh, USN

Subj: COMMAND INVESTIGATION INTO THE 6 MAY 2021 AND 20 NOVEMBER 2021
INCIDENTS AT RED HILL BULK FUEL STORAGE FACILITY

Ref: (a) JAGINST 5800.7G
(b) R.C.M 303, MCM

1. This appoints you, per references (a) and (b) to complete a command investigation into the 6 May 2021 and 20 November 2021 fuel leak incidents at Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility.
2. In light of new information regarding the possible scope and scale of the 6 May 2021 fuel leak combined with its possible impact on the subsequent 20 November 2021 fuel leak, I assess a comprehensive PACFLT investigation into both incidents is required to provide additional investigative scrutiny and quality assurance. Your investigation will be informed by three fundamental priorities: (1) ensuring there are no additional spillages released into the environment; (2) ensuring Red Hill operations are environmentally safe and secure; and (3) identifying root causes and remedial actions to safeguard the local environment and ensure this does not happen again.
3. In conducting your investigation, you will determine the facts and circumstances regarding what caused both incidents; calculate the quantity of fuel that may have been released into the environment; identify the role and impact of material failures, technical competence, and human error; evaluate whether reporting of both incidents was timely, accurate and thorough; and recommend appropriate remedial actions as informed by the priorities listed in paragraph 1. Report your findings of fact, opinions, and recommendations in letter form supported by enclosures. Your opinions and recommendations should include appropriate administrative and/or disciplinary actions, if any are warranted.
4. Based on the complexity of the subject matter surrounding these events, you are authorized at your discretion to assemble a multi-disciplinary team with a broad range of expertise and skills to assist in this investigation.
5. You may seek legal advice from the U.S. Pacific Fleet Judge Advocate throughout your investigation. If you have not previously done so, read chapter II of reference (a) in its entirety before beginning your investigation.

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6. Because the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility is primarily operated by Naval Supply Systems Command (NAVSUP), you will coordinate with NAVSUP as necessary and appropriate to ensure you have access to the areas, personnel, and information you determine are relevant to complete your investigation. You are also authorized to directly liaison and coordinate with any additional commands or entities as necessary to complete your investigation.

7. You are to complete this report and return to me by close of business on 23 December 2021 unless I grant you an extension.



S. J. PAPARO

Copy to:
NAVSUP
NAVFAC
Navy Region Hawaii
N01J