

**RELEASE DATE:** 04 APR 2023 0421(Z)

**CLASSIFICATION:** ~~Unclassified~~

**FROM:** MARINE CORPS INSTALLATIONS PACIFIC (MCIPAC)

## **SUBJECT**

Final: On-Duty, Incident, H&S BN MCIPAC-MCB CA, Standing at ID checkpoint; weapon negligent discharge; resulting in a hole in right trouser pocket; a round hit the ground, No injuries, 14 FEB 2023, Ground, Miscellaneous, Handgun/Rifle/M-18, Event # 561138

## **1. GENERAL INFORMATION**

**Unit Control Number:** ND 01 2023

**Convening Authority:** MARINE CORPS INSTALLATIONS PACIFIC

**Accounting Organization:** HEADQUARTERS AND SUPPORT BATTALION

**Event Duty Status:** On-Duty

**Event Type**

**Tier 1:** Other

## **2. EVENT DATE/TIME**

**Event Date, Local:** 14 FEB 2023

**Event Time, Local:** 1000

## **3. EVENT LOCATION**

**General Location**

**Tier 1:** Other, Describe; Camp ID Checkpoint

**Location Description:** Camp Foster Gate 1

**Country:** Japan

**Nearest Base:** Camp Foster, Okinawa - Japan

**Latitude:** 26 17.879 N

**Longitude:** 127 46.888 E

## **4. NARRATIVE**

### **SEQUENCE OF EVENT**

On 14 Feb 2023 approximately 10:00 a negligent discharge occurred at entry Gate 1 on Camp Foster, Okinawa.

Incident: While standing post at Gate 1, Person 1 (P1), Japanese Security Guard, was standing at ID checkpoint facing toward the roadway. P1 had just rested their right hand lightly on the rotating cover of a weapon holster, fingers at the front of the holster. The weapon discharged, damaging the holster by the round, leaving a hole in the end and cracked along the side, also breaking the rotating cover.

---

~~CONTROLLED UNCLASSIFIED INFORMATION~~

The information herein is ~~Controlled Unclassified Information (CUI)~~ information which must be protected under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and/or the Privacy Act of 1974, (5 U.S.C. 552a). Unauthorized disclosure or misuse of this PERSONAL INFORMATION may result in criminal and/or civil penalties.

Accessed by SA; (b) (6) NAVAL SAFETY COMMAND on 06 FEB 2024 1641(Z)

The round put a hole in the right side of the trouser cargo pocket of P1 before impacting the ground.

Background: P1 arrived for duty and attended the morning briefing for their assigned duties. P1 was assigned to Gate 1 with Person 2 (P2). At 0445, P1 met with Person 3 (P3) and went to the armory to receive the weapon (M18) and two magazines with 17 rounds each. After receiving the weapon and ammunition, P1 placed the weapon in Condition 1 by inserting one magazine in the weapon and chambered one round, placed the weapon on safe, holstered the weapon and put the rotating cover in position. P3 observed the entire process of P1 receiving the weapon and through the stages to have the weapon in condition 1. P3 drove P1 and P2 to Gate 1 arriving at 0510. P1 and P2 opened up the guard shack while P3 opened the gate. P1 and P2 rotated standing at the ID checkpoint throughout the morning until P1's weapon discharged at 10:00 while standing at the ID checkpoint.

Statement of P2: P2 was working with P1 on 14 Feb 2023. P2 was in the guard shack when P2 heard a loud noise. P2 went out to see what made the noise when P2 noticed P1 was shaking and nervous. P2 asked what happened. P1 told P2 the weapon discharged. P2 checked to see that P1 was okay, visually checked with P1 that the weapon was on safe, and then returned to the guard shack to call the duty desk to report the incident.

Statement of P3: P3 was with P1 to supervise the issuing of the weapon, two magazines and 34 rounds (17 rounds per magazine). P1 put one magazine in its pouch, and at the safety barrel, inserted one magazine in the weapon and chambered one round while placing the weapon on safe. P1 then inserted the weapon in the holster and put the rotating cover in the safe position to secure the weapon in the holster. P3 stated that this is the standard procedure.

Training Record: P1 completed training on the M18, both classroom and hands on at the firing range at Camp Hansen on 8 Nov 2021 (first training with using M18), and most recent training was completed on 30 Aug 2022. Training is documented in P1's training jacket. P1 has demonstrated very sound knowledge of both M9 and M18 weapons.

Maintenance Record: Maintenance on M18 was completed on 22 Nov 2022 by the Small Arms Technician on weapon TC062681 with the weapon passing inspection and found to be serviceable. Moreover, Armory Chief completed the inspection of TC062681 after the discharge on 14 Feb 2023 and found the weapon to be serviceable.

## **INVESTIGATION CONCLUSIONS**

After reviewing the security camera video footage, the mishap investigator concluded that P1 did not mishandle the weapon at anytime while on duty at Gate 1 prior to the weapon discharging. From the evidence and statements from the persons involved, it is apparent that the weapon fired while on safe and secured in the holster. Maintenance was conduct per Technical Manual 13141A-23 and Technical Instruction 8005-24 Pre-Fire Inspection Criteria for Small Arms. Weapon is TC062681.

---

~~CONTROLLED UNCLASSIFIED INFORMATION~~

The information herein is ~~Controlled Unclassified Information (CUI)~~ information which must be protected under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and/or the Privacy Act of 1974, (5 U.S.C. 552a). Unauthorized disclosure or misuse of this PERSONAL INFORMATION may result in criminal and/or civil penalties.

Accessed by SA; (b) (6) NAVAL SAFETY COMMAND on 06 FEB 2024 1641(Z)

Documentation of inspection results is available on file.

## **5. PRIMARY FINDINGS**

### **FINDING #1**

Japanese Security Guards (JSG) have been using M18 since Apr 2022.

### **FINDING #2**

JSG have received lecture training and hands on training on use of the M18 before issue.

### **FINDING #3**

JSG receives pistol qualification training every year.

### **FINDING #4**

The weapon fired while on safe. Person 2 (P2) visually inspected and confirmed that P1's weapon was still on safe after the round discharged.

### **FINDING #5 (CAUSAL)**

MCO 5500.6H (Arming of Law Enforcement and Security Personnel) requires Condition 1, which is magazine inserted, round in chamber, slide forward, safety on. For transparency, the MCO is from 2011 and outlines the weapon conditions for the M9 but has not been updated to include the M18.

### **FINDING #6**

The holster was damaged when the M18 discharged.

### **FINDING #7**

P1 completed the pistol qualification of the M18 on 8 Nov 2021 and 30 Aug 2022. The training record was verified during the investigation.

### **FINDING #8**

The video footage from the security camera at Gate 1 was available for review during investigation. The camera captured the mishap at the time of the negligent discharge.

### **FINDING #9 (CAUSAL)**

P1 was not mishandling M18 prior to the discharge based on review of the video footage.

### **FINDING #10**

Maintenance Record: Maintenance on M18 was completed on 22 Nov 2022 by the Small Arms Technicians on weapon TC062681 with the weapon passing inspection and found serviceable. Moreover, Armory Chief completed the inspection of TC062681 after the discharge on 14 Feb 2023

---

~~CONTROLLED UNCLASSIFIED INFORMATION~~

The information herein is ~~Controlled Unclassified Information (CUI)~~ information which must be protected under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and/or the Privacy Act of 1974, (5 U.S.C. 552a). Unauthorized disclosure or misuse of this PERSONAL INFORMATION may result in criminal and/or civil penalties.

Accessed by SA; (b) (6) [REDACTED] NAVAL SAFETY COMMAND on 06 FEB 2024 1641(Z)

and found the weapon serviceable.

## 6. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

### 6.1. PERSON BACKGROUND INFORMATION

#### PERSON: "PERSON 1" (P1)

**Narrative:** Person 1 (P1) has been working as a Japanese Security Guard for 7 years and 11 months. While on duty on the day of negligent discharge, P1 was not taking any medication. P1 did not drink alcohol and was well rested the night before.

**72-Hour / 7-Day History:** (b) (6)

**Total flying hours in the last 30/60/90 days:** //

**Total sorties in the last 30/60/90 days:** //

#### PERSON: "PERSON 2" (P2)

**Narrative:** Person 2 (P2) has been working as a Japanese Security Guard for 20 years.

**72-Hour / 7-Day History:** (b) (6)

**Total flying hours in the last 30/60/90 days:** //

**Total sorties in the last 30/60/90 days:** //

#### PERSON: "PERSON 3" (P3)

**Narrative:** Person 3 (P3) has been working as a Japanese Security Guard for 13 years and 2 months.

**72-Hour / 7-Day History:** (b) (6)

**Total flying hours in the last 30/60/90 days:** //

**Total sorties in the last 30/60/90 days:** //

### 6.2. GENERAL BACKGROUND INFORMATION

There were no General Background Information entered.

## 7. FACTORS

### FACTOR #1

**Title:** Weapon Condition

**Investigative Area:** Publications / Technical Orders

**Narrative:** MCO 5500.6H (Arming of Law Enforcement and Security Personnel) requires Condition 1, which is magazine inserted, round in chamber, slide forward, and safety on. For transparency, the MCO is from 2011 and outlines the weapon conditions for the M9 but has not been updated to include the M18.

**Determination:** Weapon Condition was a Causal Factor.

~~CONTROLLED UNCLASSIFIED INFORMATION~~

The information herein is ~~Controlled Unclassified Information (CUI)~~ information which must be protected under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and/or the Privacy Act of 1974, (5 U.S.C. 552a). Unauthorized disclosure or misuse of this PERSONAL INFORMATION may result in criminal and/or civil penalties.

Accessed by SA; (b) (6) NAVAL SAFETY COMMAND on 06 FEB 2024 1641(Z)

## FACTOR #2

**Title:** Engineering of weapon

**Investigative Area:** Risk Management

**Narrative:** There is no evidence that P1 mishandled the weapon while on duty at Gate 1 prior to the weapon discharging. Recommend an engineering review be conducted on the weapon.

**Determination:** Engineering of weapon was a Causal Factor.

## 8. PRIMARY RECOMMENDATIONS

### RECOMMENDATION #1 (367150)

**Related Findings:** 5

**Hazard/Deficiency:** Not reviewing the policy on the weapon condition status. Not having plans to prevent recurrence.

**Narrative:** Recommend that PMO management review and evaluate the policy on the weapon condition status for JSG based on Force Protection Condition (FPCON) level. During FPCON Alpha and Bravo, have guards' weapons in a lower condition such as condition 3, no round chambered a clip with rounds inserted and weapon on safe.

**Tracking Information**

**OPR:** H&S BN MCIPAC-MCB CA

**RAC:** 5

### RECOMMENDATION #2 (368322)

**Related Findings:** 4, 6, 9

**Hazard/Deficiency:** Negligent discharge of a weapon.

**Narrative:** Recommend that an engineering review of the M18 be conducted.

**Tracking Information**

**OPR:** H&S BN MCIPAC-MCB CA

**RAC:** 5

## 9. OTHER FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

There were no Other Findings of Significance entered.

## 10. OTHER RECOMMENDATION OF SIGNIFICANCE

There were no Other Recommendations of Significance entered.

## 11. REFERENCED REPORTS

There were no Referenced Reports entered.

## 12. PERSONNEL INFORMATION

### PERSON #1

**Gender:** Male

~~CONTROLLED UNCLASSIFIED INFORMATION~~

The information herein is ~~Controlled Unclassified Information (CUI)~~ information which must be protected under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and/or the Privacy Act of 1974, (5 U.S.C. 552a). Unauthorized disclosure or misuse of this PERSONAL INFORMATION may result in criminal and/or civil penalties.

Accessed by SA; (b) (6) NAVAL SAFETY COMMAND on 06 FEB 2024 1641(Z)

**Age:** (b) (6)

**Employment Status:** US Marines; Foreign National DOD Employee

**Duty Status:** On; No Further Status

**Job Series:** Security Guard Series (0085)

**Assigned Organization:** HEADQUARTERS AND SUPPORT BATTALION

**Activity:** Law Enforcement/Security

**Person Associated with Object(s)**

**Object #1:** Handgun/Rifle; M-18

**Assignment Type:** Operator / Handler / Maintainer

**Object #2:** Handgun/Rifle; Other

**Assignment Type:** Operator / Handler / Maintainer

## PERSON #2

**Gender:** Male

**Age:** (b) (6)

**Employment Status:** US Marines; Foreign National DOD Employee

**Duty Status:** On; No Further Status

**Job Series:** Security Guard Series (0085)

**Assigned Organization:** HEADQUARTERS AND SUPPORT BATTALION

**Activity:** Law Enforcement/Security

**Person Associated with Object(s)**

**Object #1:** Handgun/Rifle; M-18

**Assignment Type:** Not Assigned

**Object #2:** Handgun/Rifle; Other

**Assignment Type:** Not Assigned

## PERSON #3

**Gender:** Male

**Age:** (b) (6)

**Employment Status:** US Marines; Foreign National DOD Employee

**Duty Status:** On; No Further Status

**Job Series:** Security Guard Series (0085)

**Assigned Organization:** HEADQUARTERS AND SUPPORT BATTALION

**Activity:** Law Enforcement/Security

**Person Associated with Object(s)**

**Object #1:** Handgun/Rifle; M-18

**Assignment Type:** Not Assigned

**Object #2:** Handgun/Rifle; Other

~~CONTROLLED UNCLASSIFIED INFORMATION~~

The information herein is ~~Controlled Unclassified Information (CUI)~~ information which must be protected under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and/or the Privacy Act of 1974, (5 U.S.C. 552a). Unauthorized disclosure or misuse of this PERSONAL INFORMATION may result in criminal and/or civil penalties.

Accessed by SA; (b) (6) NAVAL SAFETY COMMAND on 06 FEB 2024 1641(Z)

Assignment Type: Not Assigned

### 13. OBJECTS INFORMATION

#### OBJECT #1: HANDGUN/RIFLE; M-18

Damage Description: No Damage

Owning Service: Marine Corps

Owning Organization: HEADQUARTERS AND SUPPORT BATTALION

#### OBJECT #2: HANDGUN/RIFLE; OTHER

Damage Description: Destroyed

Owning Service: Marine Corps

Owning Organization: HEADQUARTERS AND SUPPORT BATTALION

### 14. EVENT COST

### 15. SAFETY INVESTIGATION BOARD (SIB) PERSONNEL

#### POSITION: SINGLE INVESTIGATING OFFICER

Name: (b) (6)

Organization: (b) (6)

Phone

DSN: (b) (6)

Email: (b) (6)

#### POSITION: RECORDER

Name: (b) (6)

Organization: (b) (6)

Phone

DSN: (b) (6)

Email: (b) (6)

### 16. RELEASING OFFICIAL

Name: (b) (6)

Organization: (b) (6)

Phone

DSN: (b) (6)

Email: (b) (6)

~~CONTROLLED UNCLASSIFIED INFORMATION~~

The information herein is ~~Controlled Unclassified Information (CUI)~~ information which must be protected under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and/or the Privacy Act of 1974, (5 U.S.C. 552a). Unauthorized disclosure or misuse of this PERSONAL INFORMATION may result in criminal and/or civil penalties.

Accessed by SA: (b) (6) NAVAL SAFETY COMMAND on 06 FEB 2024 1641(Z)