

2 June 2004

INFORMATION PAPER

Subject: Hand Sanitizing Dispensers in Dining Facilities and Personal Hand Sanitizing Gel

1. **Purpose.** To provide training brigade leaders information and guidance on the use of dining facility (DFAC) hand sanitizing foams and gels, and the use of personal hand sanitizing gel.

2. **Facts.**

a. Cleaning hands with alcohol-based hand sanitizing foam or gel is an effective way to disinfect them from nearly all microorganisms (germs) that cause respiratory (throat and lungs) and gastrointestinal (stomach and bowel) illnesses. Hand sanitizers are more effective at destroying microorganisms than soap and water. Soap and water should be used to remove obvious grime, and a grease-cutting solvent should be used to remove visible grease, prior to using hand sanitizing foam, or gel, (whenever feasible).

b. Leaders should encourage the use of hand sanitizing foam or gel in the following conditions in garrison and in the field:

- (1) After using the latrine
- (2) Before touching food
- (3) After sneezing, nose blowing, or coughing

c. The standard of two hand sanitizing devices at DFAC entrances supporting initial entry training (IET) was approved by the Commanding General, US Army Accessions Command, in FY03 for full implementation by 1 Oct 04. The sanitizing devices contain sanitizing foam or gel and should be used by all personnel upon entry into the DFAC.

(1) The attached training aid should be placed next to DFAC dispensers in order to remind soldiers of the proper technique for using sanitizing solutions.

(2) This training aid can also be found at <http://www.tradoc.army.mil/surgeon/index.htm>. Local reproduction is encouraged.

d. Soldiers should carry personal sanitizing gel to field training events, to include close-in training events that involve field feeding. Directions for use of individual sanitizing gel are: Place a dime-size amount onto your palm and rub it briskly over the surface of both hands, then let your hands dry. Information on the use of sanitizing foam/gel can be found in the Medical Moment of Truth briefing at: <http://tradocfs.monroe.army.mil/surgeon/medicalmomentof-1/default.htm>.

MAJ Cummings/ATBO-M/2097
Approved By COL J.G. Jolissaint