



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

BUREAU OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20372-5120

IN REPLY REFER TO

BUMEDINST 6250.14
BUMED-3C4
9 Jul 91

BUMED INSTRUCTION 6250.14

From: Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery
To: Ships and Stations Having Medical Personnel
Subj: PROCUREMENT OF DERATTING/DERATTING EXEMPTION CERTIFICATES
Ref: (a) MANMED art. 22-37(1)
(b) SECNAVINST 6210.2
(c) International Health Regulations, article 53a
Encl: (1) Elements of the Deratting and Deratting Exemption Program
(2) Specifications for Approved Rat Guards and Directions For Their Use

1. Purpose. To provide procedures for ships to procure a Deratting or Deratting Exemption Certificate (HMS Form 241) from a Navy Medical Department officer (MDO) designated as a United States Public Health Service (USPHS) officer with the authority to issue deratting and deratting exemption certificates.

2. Scope. This instruction augments the general information in references (a) and (b), complies with rodent control requirements of reference (c), and provides specific information and guidance in enclosures (1) and (2).

3. Discussion

a. Reference (a) requires the senior Medical Department representative (SMDR) on a ship proceeding to a foreign port to obtain either a deratting or deratting exemption certificate. Because of the potential for any ship to be deployed to any region with little notice, all deployable vessels must maintain a current deratting or deratting exemption certificate. Certification is valid for 6 months and may be extended once for 1 month, by the original issuer, if the extension will allow better scheduling and more thorough inspection for subsequent certification.

b. Certification is generally available either through United States quarantine stations in major ports of the United States or from Navy MDO's who have been designated as USPHS officers with the authority to issue deratting or deratting exemption certificates at naval hospitals, branch naval medical



ELEMENTS OF THE DERATTING AND DERATTING EXEMPTION PROGRAM

1. Navy MDO designated as USPHS officer with authority to issue deratting or deratting exemption certificates.

a. Application for Designation. A Navy MDO from a shore command or a surface ship which provides medical support to other vessels may submit an application for designation as a USPHS officer with authority to issue deratting or deratting exemption certificates for ships. The application letter must be submitted by the command to the Director, Division of Quarantine, Center for Prevention Services, Centers for Disease Control (E-3), Atlanta, GA 30333-5000, via the Navy Environmental Health Center (NEHC-37), 2510 Walmer Avenue, Norfolk, VA 23513-2617. The application must include ports to be serviced.

b. USPHS Seal. Each individual designated as a USPHS officer will receive from the USPHS an initial supply of Deratting or Deratting Exemption Certificates (HMS Form 241) and a numbered USPHS seal. The seal will be used only in executing deratting or deratting exemption certificates. The designated USPHS officer must keep the seal secured when not in use. Upon transfer or when the designation as a USPHS officer is terminated, a request may be made to transfer the authority and the seal to another Navy MDO as outlined in paragraph 1a. If the seal is not officially transferred, it must be returned to the Division of Quarantine, USPHS, or otherwise disposed of as directed by that Service. Information copies of all correspondence pertaining to termination of the authority and return of the seal must be forwarded to the Navy Environmental Health Center (NEHC-37).

c. Authority to Issue. Deratting or deratting exemption certificates may not be further delegated.

2. USPHS Quarantine Rodent Inspector. Designation as a USPHS officer with authority to issue deratting or deratting exemption certificates will be approved only when there is present in the command a preventive medicine technician or other naval Medical Department representative certified as a USPHS quarantine rodent inspector by the USPHS. This training and certification is included in the Preventive Medicine Technician (Class C) School, Naval Hospital, Oakland, CA. When a certified inspector is transferred without a qualified replacement, the authority of the designated USPHS officer to issue deratting or deratting exemption certificates is rescinded and the seal must be returned to the USPHS per paragraph 1b. The command holding the seal is responsible for ensuring that personnel qualified as USPHS quarantine rodent inspectors are available.

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clinics, and on some surface ships. Rodent inspection must be conducted by a certified USPHS quarantine rodent inspector or an authorized representative of the USPHS. Deratting measures will be required when evidence of a rodent infestation is found. Upon elimination of the rodent infestation, or if there is no indication of rodent activity onboard the ship, a Deratting or Deratting Exemption Certificate (HMS Form 241) will be issued.

4. Action

a. Commanding officers of ships requiring deratting or deratting exemption certificates must submit requests by message, telephone, or letter to the area Navy command that has a designated USPHS officer. Surface ships with personnel authorized to issue deratting or deratting exemption certificates must request inspection and certification from authorized personnel outside the command.

b. Upon receipt of a request, the designated USPHS officer must arrange completion of required procedures following enclosure (1).

5. Implementation. Area, fleet, force, and type commanders may issue such implementing instructions as deemed necessary to assure compliance by ships under their operational control. Enclosure (2) provides guidelines for proper use of rat guards in those areas where local instructions or local conditions require their use.

6. Forms. Additional copies of the Deratting or Deratting Exemption Certificate (HMS Form 241) may be obtained from the Director, Division of Quarantine, Center for Prevention Services, Centers for Disease Control (E-3), Atlanta, GA 30333-5000, telephone (404) 639-1437.


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3. Inspection. The designated MDO may issue a deratting exemption certificate for a vessel if the rodent inspector finds no evidence of rodents onboard. Rodent inspection must be done during daylight hours to allow thorough inspection of exterior areas. A certificate is to be issued only if adequate inspection of the ship has been completed. Holds must be empty or contain only ballast or other material unattractive to rodents and stored in a manner which makes thorough inspection possible. A deratting exemption certificate may be issued for an oil tanker with full holds.

SPECIFICATIONS FOR APPROVED RAT GUARDS
AND DIRECTIONS FOR THEIR USE

1. Where rat guards are required due to endemic rodent-borne disease or by local instruction, or in areas where large rodent populations are known to be present, correct placement of properly constructed rat guards is essential.

2. Specifications. Only rat guards which meet the requirements in military specification MIL-G-2767C and comply with USPHS specifications are approved for use on Navy ships. General requirements are provided below and illustrated in figure 1.

a. Materials. Rat guards will be galvanized sheet steel or sheet aluminum alloy. They must consist of a disc and a tapered sleeve.

b. Dimensions. Rat guards must conform to the following dimensions:

<u>Dimensions (inches)</u>		<u>Thickness of Disc, Sleeve, and Guide</u>	
<u>Inside Diameter</u>	<u>Outside Diameter</u>	<u>Steel (Sheet Gage)</u>	<u>Aluminum (B and S Gage)</u>
3	36	18	16
5	48	18	16
8	48	18	16

3. Placement. Rodents are able to jump as high as 3 feet and as far as 4 feet horizontally, and can climb almost any line. This must be considered when placing rat guards. To ensure effective placement of rat guards, these guidelines must be followed:

a. Choose sleeve diameter to closely match the line or group of lines.

b. Place rat guards at a point on the line at least 6 feet from the pier, with the point at least 2 feet from the ship.

c. The point of the cone must face the ship.

d. Two or more closely placed lines should be grouped to pass through one rat guard, or the rat guards should be placed side-by-side to prevent rodents from jumping from one line to another to skirt the rat guards.

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e. Any gaps between the sleeve and the line must be securely fitted with material which cannot be easily removed or destroyed by gnawing rodents.

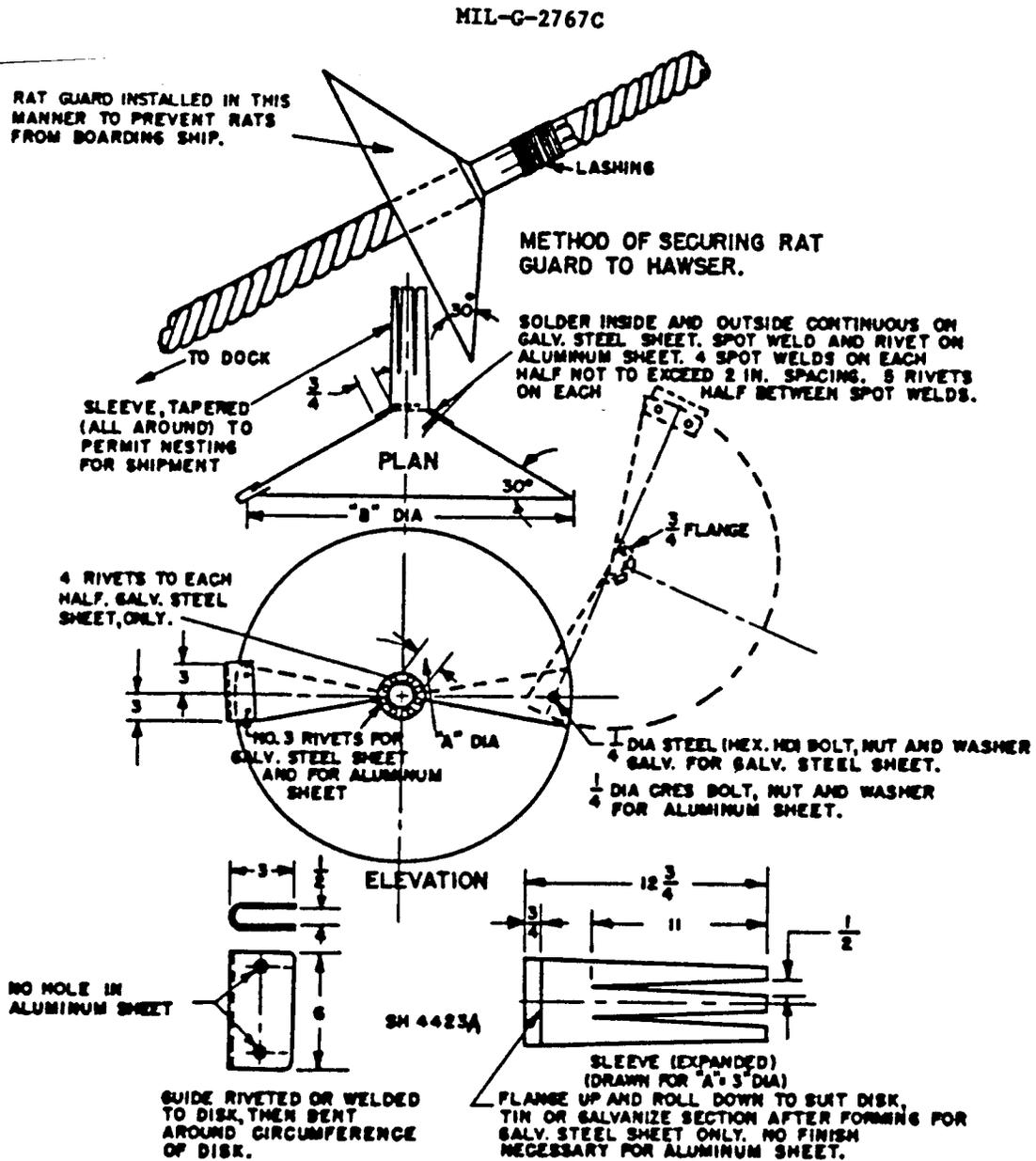


FIGURE 1. Assembly of rat guards.

4. Deratting

a. Deratting will be accomplished by an aggressive rodent surveillance and control program if inspection indicates the presence of rodents. Continue the program for at least 3 to 5 days after all indications of an active infestation have ceased before requesting reinspection by the rodent inspector or USPHS representative. In the absence of trained personnel where immediate eradication is considered mandatory and because of the threat of disease, contact the cognizant Navy environmental and preventive medicine unit by message for further instruction.

b. Whenever possible, deratting must be done when the holds are empty. When a ship is in ballast, it must be done before loading. When deratting has been accomplished to the satisfaction of the rodent inspector, a deratting certificate will be issued by the designated USPHS officer.

c. No attempt should be made to prevent a ship's movement due solely to the presence of rodents. If thorough deratting cannot be accomplished, it should be noted on the current certificate.

5. Issuance of Certificates. Deratting or deratting exemption certificates must be issued in duplicate. The original is provided to the ship and a copy is retained by the issuing medical department. If extended by 1 month, the extension may be noted on the original certificate or provided as a separate form (HSM 13.45B (CDC)). If extension is requested and approved by the original issuer by message, Form HSM 13.45B should be forwarded to the ship. Port authorities may or may not honor a message granting extension.

6. Designation of Navy MDO as USPHS Officer Where USPHS Personnel are Available. A Navy MDO may be authorized to issue deratting or deratting exemption certificates for U.S. Navy vessels even where USPHS personnel are available. This provision applies subject to any modification agreed upon locally regarding division of responsibility between the Navy and the USPHS for issuance of deratting or deratting exemption certificates.