

POINT PAPER

Subj: ACCEPTANCE OF GIFTS FROM FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS

Ref: (a) MCO P5800.16A

(b) DoD Directive 5500.7-R, Joint Ethics Regulation, of 30 Aug 93

1. **General Rule:** Per reference (a), no gift will be accepted by the USMC or by a Marine if it has the potential to embarrass the USMC.

2. **Gifts of Minimal Value.** Gifts of a value less than \$285.00 received as souvenirs or marks of courtesy from a foreign government may be accepted and retained by the government.

3. **Gifts of More than Minimal Value.**

- If a gift of a value more than \$285.00 is offered, it should normally be declined, however, if the refusal of a gift would embarrass the donor, or could adversely affect the foreign relations of the U.S., the gift may be accepted as a gift to the Marine Corps.

- The accepted gift becomes Marine Corps property, and may be retained for official use by the command.

- Alternatively, the gift may be forwarded to CMC (JAR) as excess property for disposal per reference (a). If forwarded to JAR, include cover letter with all information as listed below.

4. **Reporting Requirement.** Each command must maintain records of gifts of more than minimal value received by their employees from foreign governments. All such gifts received during the preceding calendar year shall be forwarded annually to CMC (JAR) by 15 January. The report shall include the following information:

- a. Name and title of recipient
- b. Description of gift item, date of acceptance, estimated value, and current disposition and location.
- c. Identity of donor and government.
- d. Circumstances of acceptance.
- e. Whether recipient wishes to participate in sale of gift by disposal authority.