Making Personal, Family Typhoon Preparedness Plans

Compiled by CFAY Public Affairs

The following is official Commander Fleet Activities Yokosuka instruction regarding family plans for Tropical Cyclone Conditions Of Readiness.

Actions to Take In Advance of Typhoon Season:

• Make a personal or family plan in case you have to evacuate. Should CNFJ order an evacuation for an approaching typhoon, CFAY publishes evacuation routes and safehaven locations. Obtain a map of Kanagawa Prefecture.

• Make a list of important contact numbers to take with you in case you have to evacuate: family/friends/work/muster/insurance companies/financial/etc.

• Collect all important papers, documents, and information (checklist below). Put them in a water proof container.

• Designate a contact outside the typhoon zone where family and friends can check-in.

• Make sure your vehicle is in good working order. Keep a full tank of gas if a storm threatens. Have an emergency car kit. Make sure your driver's license, car inspection sticker and car insurance are all current. If you do not have a vehicle and are ordered to evacuate, CFAY provides bus transportation. Transportation guidance is provided via your chain of command, on Channel 15 and at www.cfay.navy.mil/yokosuka.

• Regularly copy your computer hard drive to a portable disk or thumb drive.

• Photograph an inventory of your belongings.

• Make at least one extra set of keys for your residence.

• Update your military record of family members and SGLI information.

• Obtain all Typhoon Kit items relevant to your circumstances.

Actions to take if you stay during a typhoon:

• Make sure that you have all relevant typhoon kit items on hand.

• Let your family/friends/work know where you are planning to stay.

• Move valuables and heirlooms to a protected location.

• Back up your hard drive and put a copy in a safe place.

• Unplug all electronics including computer and move them to a safe place.

• Empty your refrigerator and freezer of items that would spoil.

• Secure your home inside and out, especially items that can pose hazards in high winds.

• Be prepared to turn off gas — know how to do this in advance.

• Put all of your important documents in a water proof container in a high, safe place.

• Keep one land-line phone in the home.

• Have flotation devices (life jackets, etc.) available.

• Have tools such as an axe, chain saw, hatchet available.

• Move your vehicle to a high and dry location if possible.

Actions to take if you evacuate for a typhoon:

• Pack up and take all relevant typhoon kit items.

• Let your family, friends and work know where you are planning to go.

• Move valuables & heirlooms to a protected location or bring with you.

• Back up computer hard drive and bring a copy with you.

• Unplug all electronics and move to a high, safe location.

• Empty your refrigerator and freezer of all perishable items.

• Secure your home inside and out, especially items that can pose hazards in high winds.

• Turn off utilities.

• Leave a note in a conspicuous place in your home telling where you are going and how you can be reached.

• Bring sufficient cash and a credit card.

• If you are not taking your vehicle, move it to a high and dry location.

Tropical Cyclone Conditions of Readiness definitions

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Conditions of readiness (CORs) provide a framework for the establishment of a timeline depicting preparations that should be completed prior to the onset of destructive weather conditions. CORs are designed to minimize personal injury and damage to property via increased readiness preparations.

CORs will be implemented for any storm which generates damaging or destructive winds, including tropical cyclones, sub-tropical cyclones or extra-tropical windstorms.

Conditions of Readiness have four distinct levels (4-1). These levels are based on the following criteria: speed of sustained winds; speed of wind gusts; the period of time prior to the forecast onset of damaging or destructive winds.

Damaging wind is defined as sustained 34-49-knot-winds (40-56 mph) or frequent 40-59-knot-gusts (46-68 mph).

Destructive wind is defined as sustained 50-knot-winds (58 mph) or more, or 60-knot-gusts (69 mph) or more.

A Tropical Cyclone Condition of Readiness (TCCOR) is a special classification of COR that is used when dangerous or damaging winds are present in association with a tropical cyclone or developing tropical cyclone. It is important to distinguish a TCCOR from a Storm COR.

TCCOR/Storm COR Levels:

• TCCOR/Storm COR Storm Watch. The weather system is expected to pass dangerously close to the installation and any shift in track or increase in intensity may result in rapid elevations in CORs and destructive force winds occurring on short notice. At a minimum, sustained damaging force 34-49-knot-winds with significant higher gusts of up to 59 knots may be experienced when this condition is set.

• TCCOR/Storm COR 4: Trend indicates a possible threat of destructive winds of the force indicated within 72 hours.

• TCCOR/Storm COR 3: Destructive winds of the force indicated are possible within 48 hours.

• TCCOR/Storm COR 2: Destructive winds of the force indicated are anticipated within 24 hours.

• TCCOR/Storm COR 1: Destructive winds of the force indicated are anticipated within 12 hours.

• TCCOR/Storm COR 1 CAUTION (lC): Sustained 34-49-knot-winds with frequent 50-59-knot-gusts of are occurring at the installation.

• TCCOR/Storm COR 1 EMERGENCY (IE): 50-knot-gusts and up or frequent 60-knot-gusts or more are occurr at the installation.

• TCCOR/Storm COR 1 RECOVERY (IR): When sustained winds fall below 50 knots and gusts of 60 knots or greater are no longer occurring.

• TCCOR/Storm COR ALL CLEAR (AC): The meteorological system has passed and the threat of severe weather is over and it is safe to go outside.

NFAAS tracks Sailors, families during disasters

By Bruce Moody,
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WASHINGTON - Sailors and Navy families are reminded to update personal information with the Navy Family Accountability and Assessment System (NFAAS).

NFAAS is used to manage and monitor their well-being and recovery process if a Navy community is evacuated because of a disaster, natural or otherwise, the Navy will use NFAAS to account for evacuated Sailors and families. The Navy will also use NFAAS to find out if Sailors and families are okay, where they are and how to reach them if they need help.

The Navy calls an area affected by a disaster a geographic area of interest (GAOI). After a disaster, all Navy personnel and their families residing, deployed to or working within a GAOI are required to check in at the first available opportunity. There are three options available to check in.

Sailors can check in directly with their commands and provide their family's status and whereabouts. This is the primary way to account. Commands will upload the information into NFAAS. If unable to reach their command, Sailors can muster on NFAAS at https://navyfamily.navy.mil. If unsuccessful, the third option is to account with the Navy Emergency Coordination Center at 1-877-414-5358 or 1-866-827-5672 (TDD 1-866-297-1971).

After mustering, it is equally important that Sailors complete a needs assessment in NFAAS if they are impacted by the event. If a Sailor or Navy family need help following a declared disaster, the Navy has resources that can support them during the emergency. NFAAS has a user-friendly assessment tool to coordinate and prioritize disaster-related needs. The system allows families to assess their needs in 19 categories including, medical, missing family locator, transportation, housing and personal property, financial, employment, child care, education, legal services, counseling and mortuary and funeral assistance.

Once disaster-related needs are identified, a case manager from a Fleet and Family Support Center is assigned. The case manager will contact the Navy family member to assist them with support that ranges from the urgent to the informational.

Access to the assessment information is restricted. Details of the assessment will not be provided to anyone outside the case management team without the provider's approval.