DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
COMMANDER, FLEET ACTIVITIES, OKINAWA
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From: Commander, Fleet Activities, Okinawa
To: All Hands

Subj: TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS POLICY

1. Trafficking in Persons is a modern form of slavery. Every year, thousands of individuals are forced into intolerable conditions and have had their most basic rights forcibly taken from them. While commercial sex exploitation is the most common form, it has also placed humans into forced labor, debt bondage, and child labor.

2. Trafficking in Persons (TIP) is the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring, or receipt of persons by threats or use of force and other forms of coercion, abduction, fraud, deception, abuse of power or position of vulnerability. Violation of these basic human rights is contrary to our core values of honor, courage, and commitment; and just as the shopper at the meat counter supports the butcher's trade, when you engage in prostitution anywhere in the world, you are almost certainly contributing to this barbaric business. Aside from its' immorality, TIP is a major threat to our Naval Forces and mission readiness. Our Sailors and Marines regularly contract sexually transmitted diseases from this practice, and profits from TIP are aiding our adversaries in the Global War on Terrorism.

3. Education and awareness about TIP is essential. Every Sailor, Marine, and civilian at CFAO must understand the severity of this crime and the impact it has on readiness within our Area of Responsibly. TIP training will become a part of command indoctrination and an annual training requirement. This training will emphasize the ramifications of TIP and the participation in any activity associated with this crime. TIP participation will not be tolerated and any personnel associated with this practice will be fully subject to UCMJ prosecution. Please stand with me to help make this despicable practice a thing of the past.

R. W. WEATHERS