



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
COMMANDER US NAVAL FORCES JAPAN
COMMANDER NAVY REGION JAPAN
PSC 473 BOX 12
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MEMORANDUM

From: Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Japan
To: Distribution

Subj: U.S. NAVAL FORCES JAPAN MASK POLICY (UPDATE III)

Ref: (a) COMNAVFOR Japan Memo 5000 Ser/N00/0516 dtd 16 Jun 21
(b) Deputy Secretary of Defense Memo dtd 28 Jul 21
(c) COMUSFJ Force Public Health Order 21-002 FRAGO 004 dtd 14 Jun 21

1. Interim Update on U.S. Naval Forces Japan Mask Policy from reference (a) is superseded by this memorandum. Discontinue distribution of reference (a).

2. In accordance with reference (b), in areas of substantial or high community transmission, Department of Defense (DoD) requires all Service members, Federal employees, onsite contractor employees, and visitors, regardless of vaccination status, to wear a mask in an indoor setting in installations and other facilities owned, leased or otherwise controlled by DoD. Determination of areas of substantial or high community transmission will be based upon measurement of COVID-19 community transmission case rates in prefectures / localities in which Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Japan (CNFJ) installations are located. Installation mask-wear requirements and associated community transmission case rates will be promulgated weekly by CNFJ.

3. In areas without substantial or high community transmission, and in accordance with reference (b), mask wear for fully-immunized personnel (two weeks beyond final dose) is no longer a mandatory requirement at DoD facilities. However, immunized personnel should continue to comply with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidance regarding areas where masks should be worn, including within airports. Additionally, CNFJ installations are required to comply with the following.

- a. All personnel, regardless of vaccination status, will continue to wear masks off installation, in accordance with reference (c).
- b. All personnel, regardless of vaccination status, are required to wear masks when interacting with citizens of the host nation, in accordance with reference (c). This includes, but is not limited to MLC, IHA, MC, and JSDF personnel.
- c. All personnel, regardless of vaccination status, will continue to wear masks while in Military Treatment Facilities and Department of Defense Educational Activity facilities.

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d. All personnel who are not fully immunized will continue to wear masks both on and off installation, and continue to maintain physical distance, in accordance with references (b) and (c).

e. Fully-immunized personnel are no longer required to wear masks outdoors on CNFJ installations, to include areas of substantial or high community transmission, as long as they are not in contact with host nation personnel. Installation Commanders may impose additional mask requirements for specific outdoor locations or specific outdoor events for the health and preservation of DoD/host nation affiliated personnel.

f. Indoors in areas without substantial or high community transmission, and when not in contact with host nation personnel, Installation Commanders, Tenant Commanding Officers, and Tenant Facility Managers are authorized to determine mask relaxation policies for the areas under their cognizance (based on risk assessments considering vaccination rates, close work requirements, number of visitors from outside their organization, employee morale concerns, etc). Any area where mask use is relaxed must be clearly marked to include identification of the policy authorizing official. By default, all indoor areas that are not specifically marked should be considered mandatory mask wear areas.

g. All personnel shall carry a mask on their person or in their possession at all times so that they may don a mask when required in order to comply with references (b), (c), and this memorandum.

h. CNFJ personnel onboard a non-Navy DoD installation shall follow the mask wear policies of their host installation.

4. Commanders are responsible for ensuring proper mask utilization by all assigned personnel, to include proper wear in areas not under their direct cognizance both on and off installation.

5. This guidance will remain in place until further notice unless otherwise rescinded, extended, or superseded. I have determined that the restrictions in this order are reasonably necessary and calculated to accomplish the military mission of U.S. Naval Forces Japan/Navy Region Japan and to safeguard the health, safety and welfare of personnel assigned to or residing onboard our installations. Violations by military personnel are subject to punishment under Article 92, Uniform Code of Military Justice, as violations of a lawful general order. Failures to comply with this order by U.S. civilian employees may result in administrative (debarment, curtailment) or disciplinary action. Violations by dependents may result in administrative sanctions, up to and including loss of command sponsorship and early return of dependents.



C. A. LAHTI

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