



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
U.S. NAVAL SUPPORT ACTIVITY
BAHRAIN
FPO AE 09834-2800

NAVSUPPACT BAHRAININST 10120.1E
NOOB

16 MAR 2011

U.S. NAVAL SUPPORT ACTIVITY BAHRAIN INSTRUCTION 10120.1E

Subj: DOD MILITARY AND CIVILIAN PERSONNEL CLOTHING POLICY

Ref: (a) COMUSNAVCENT/COMFIFTHFLT OPOD 1000-07

Encl: (1) Clothing Policy Guidelines

1. Purpose. Enclosure (1) provides procedures and clear guidance to ensure that the attire of personnel assigned to or transiting U.S. Naval Support Activity (NSA), Bahrain is appropriate for the local culture and in keeping with our force protection posture.

2. Cancellation. NSABAHRAININST 10120.1D.

3. Applicability. This instruction applies to all military and Department of Defense personnel and contractors in the Kingdom of Bahrain, and their accompanying family members, whether visiting, or permanently assigned.

4. Action. All military and civilian personnel assigned to Bahrain will comply with enclosure (1). Maintaining good relations with our host country and ensuring personal safety is the responsibility of all.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E. L. SADSAD", is centered below the main text.

E. L. SADSAD

Distribution: NSABAHRAININST 5216.1 (Series)
Lists I and II

CLOTHING POLICY GUIDELINES

1. Uniforms

a. Uniforms may not be worn while in transit between residence and workplace. Appropriate civilian attire will be worn. Changing facilities are available in Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Central Command (COMUSNAVCENT) locker rooms and NSA Bahrain gymnasium locker rooms.

b. Based upon certain elevated Threat Conditions (THREATCON), the wearing of uniforms while in transit to the below listed locations may be disallowed. Announcement of such prohibition will be made via appropriate security bulletins and THREATCON messages. Unless otherwise directed, uniforms may be worn during the following circumstances, only in an official capacity:

(1) In transit between NSA Bahrain, the Aviation Unit, Shaikh Isa Air Base, U.S. Embassy, and Mina Salman port facilities.

(2) In transit to the Department of Defense Dependent School Bahrain in conjunction with meetings attended at the school as an official representative of the U.S. Government.

(3) In transit while performing official security duties and while representing the U.S. Government in an official capacity where a uniform is required or expected (e.g., visits to the U.S. Embassy in an official military capacity).

c. Uniforms may not be worn while residing in or traveling to or from a hotel.

d. When wearing a uniform during authorized transits, stops at any other location (i.e., stores, residences, restaurants, etc.) are not permitted.

e. Uniforms must be carried so they are not visible when transiting in civilian clothing. In vehicles, uniform items (including covers) must be stowed out of view. When walking or riding a bicycle, uniforms must be carried in a bag so they are not identifiable.

2. Civilian Clothing

a. General. It is impossible to cover all combinations of attire. The goal is to blend with the local environment and not draw undue attention to yourself. Civilian attire will present a neat,

conservative appearance. **Clothing will be loose fitting and concealing.**

(1) Neither males nor females shall wear shirts or blouses of sheer fabric that could be considered revealing.

(2) Appropriate casual shorts are authorized as defined in this paragraph. **LONG PANTS ARE REQUIRED BETWEEN SUNSET AND SUNRISE IN ALL HOTELS, RESTAURANTS (excluding fast food restaurants) AND CLUBS WITHOUT EXCEPTION. Note: Capri and Cropped pants are considered long pants for women.** Casual shorts will not be more than 2 inches above the knee for both male and female.

(3) Conservative slacks, denim pants (jeans), skirts, dresses, or shorts and collard shirts are generally acceptable for liberty; however, personnel should be advised that some hotels and clubs expect patrons to dress more formally (e.g., coat and tie) and that hotel security personnel will not allow access to such clubs unless personnel are properly attired.

b. RAMADAN. **During the celebration of Ramadan, the wearing of physical training (PT) attire and casual shorts will be modified to require full leg coverage** (i.e. sweat pants/jeans) when in transit, exercising, or while on liberty in public. Females (13 years of age and above) are required to wear shirts that extend below the elbow. Complete arm-covering clothing is also highly recommended but not mandatory. Separate Ramadan guidance will be promulgated as required.

c. Traditional Host Nation Attire. Traditional host nation male attire (thobe and guttra) and host nation female attire (abaya) shall not be worn in public or social events (private or public) by U.S. military personnel without written permission from COMUSNAVCENT, per reference (a).

d. Additional Standards of Dress for All Personnel. **The following clothing is prohibited attire in public areas for all personnel, except as specifically authorized elsewhere in this instruction:**

(1) Shirts or blouses of sheer fabric that could be considered revealing; extremely loose, baggy, oversized clothing or form fitting attire;

(2) Shirts, jackets, pants, ball caps, headgear, or other outerwear with military, political, religious, heavy metal/rap/hip hop music, gang graphics, and or illegal drug themes or logos. This includes both command T-shirts and command golf/polo shirts.

(3) **Shorts that measure higher than 2 inches above the knee, cutoffs of any length, and tank tops of any kind.**

(4) T-shirts which comply with the restrictions mentioned in paragraph 2.b.(2) above may be worn off base (keep in mind military logos are only allowed on base) as long as they are in good taste and not offensive. Undershirts (plain white, brown, or green), T-shirts normally worn as a uniform item may not only be worn while engaged in physical training/fitness on base. Tank tops may only be worn while engaged in PT/Fitness on base.

(5) Headphones are not allowed while in uniform, including blue-tooth ear pieces. While transiting in civilian attire or while jogging/running, one ear piece must be removed for safety purposes.

(6) **All clothing shall be in good repair. It will not be frayed or have any holes, rips or tears, either manufactured or as a result of wear.**

(7) All rubber or plastic type footwear (i.e. shower shoes, pool shoes, etc.) are not authorized foot attire on or off the base unless transiting to or while at the pool, beach, or shower area.

(8) Sandals with a single toe divider and an open back that have a leather/cloth or leather/cloth like top, or a wooden sole, or have a rear strap, are authorized.

e. Standards of Dress for Male Personnel. The following restrictions apply to all male personnel (13 years of age and above) in public:

(1) Sleeveless shirts and tank tops are prohibited. Undershirts (plain white, brown or green) normally worn as undergarments are not to be worn as an outer garment while on liberty. Undershirts may be worn while engaged in physical activity/training on base only.

(2) Shirts with crew neck collars (not T-shirts) that are a casual or dress type shirt may be worn on liberty. Collared shirts are highly recommended and should be buttoned below the second button unless a T-shirt or a sweater, of good taste, is being worn under the shirt.

(3) No articles shall be attached to or through the ear, nose, or any other body part for military personnel. The wearing of flashy or excessive jewelry is highly discouraged. Jewelry will be kept within the bounds of good taste. Religious medallions and pendants are authorized, per service regulations, but will be worn out of sight at all times.

(4) Bandanas, handkerchiefs, du-rags, or other type of cloth head coverings are prohibited. A plain sweatband may be worn on base when actively engaged in physical exercise/training.

f. Standards of Dress for Female Personnel (13 years of age and above). Due to local cultural sensitivities, female personnel shall be especially sensitive to the need to dress in a conservative manner. Brightly colored or flashy clothing may draw unwanted attention and should be avoided. Slacks, Capri pants (below the knee), and denim pants (jeans) must be loose fitting and concealing. The following restrictions apply to all female personnel in public areas:

(1) Upper arms and shoulders will be covered at all times.

(2) Dresses and skirts are allowed but must be loose fitting and fall to the knees or below.

(3) Shirts must be long enough to cover the mid-section at all times.

(4) **Shorts higher than 2 inches above the knee, cutoffs of any length, and tank tops of any kind are not authorized.**

(5) Modern formal/cocktail dresses (i.e., backless/strapless/sleeveless, etc.) may be worn only at officially sponsored events (Seabee Ball, Navy Ball, Chief Petty Officer's Ball, Christmas Ball, etc.).

(6) Bandannas and du-rags will not be worn. A scarf tied under the chin may be worn to protect against ultraviolet light while transiting outside. All other type of cloth head coverings are prohibited in public areas and on base. Women that are authorized to wear Muslim attire may wear the appropriate head covering.

g. Transit Attire. Personnel are permitted to wear PT attire to and from work if transiting in a closed private motor vehicle from their place of residence and parking inside the fence line of NSA Bahrain. Parking outside the fence line and then transiting to the gate in PT attire is not authorized. When in transit to or from a social or recreational activity, including the beach or private home, individuals may wear attire appropriate to the activity in which they intend to engage or have engaged as long as it is within a closed vehicle, and follows previously stated guidelines. Stops at commercial establishments, (e.g. fast food, convenient stores, etc.) are authorized only if wearing shorts as described in paragraph 2.f. above.

h. Military Uniforms in Transit. Wearing a military uniform in transit from a private residence or hotel off base to the base or

military installation is not authorized. Also, while in transit off base uniforms will be kept covered in an opaque bag or garment bag. The following are exceptions to wearing uniforms in transit:

(a) Military Desert Camouflage Uniform (DCU) may be worn in a "Dressed Down" condition during transits between places of duty, such as NSA Bahrain, the Aviation Unit, Shaikh Isa Air Base, U.S. Embassy, and Mina Salman Pier. The one exception to this is personnel traveling in Executive Protection vehicles with darkened windows, but these personnel will still need to be uncovered.

(b) DCUs in "dress down" condition requires the blouse and cover, or headgear to be removed between the military facilities. Personnel in uniform transiting to/from the Aviation Unit, Shaikh Isa Air Base, Mina Salman, or NSA Bahrain facilities shall, at no time, leave the vehicle unless physically within the facility compound. Brown T-shirts will not be worn as an outer garment when in civilian clothes.