



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
COMMANDER U. S. NAVAL FORCES, JAPAN
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COMNAVFORJAPANINST 1050.7
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COMNAVFORJAPAN INSTRUCTION 1050.7

Subj: LIBERTY CARD PROGRAM

Ref: (a) JAGMAN Article 0104.b
(b) U.S. Navy Regulations
(c) COMPACFLTINST 5440.3 series
(d) MILPERSMAN 1050-290
(e) COMNAVFORJAPANINST 1020.3 series

1. Purpose. To provide installation Commanders, Commanding Officers, and Officer's In Charge (OIC's) of shore commands within the Commander, Naval Forces Japan AOR the authority to grant extended liberty to qualified Sailors in pay grades E1 through E4 through the use of a liberty card program. The overseas environment is different than that which our junior Sailors are exposed to in CONUS assignments. Our Japanese hosts carefully scrutinize the behavior of all U.S. military personnel in Japan, and we need to take necessary steps to always put our best foot forward. The vast majority of our Sailors have what it takes to be an exceptional Sailor, and our goal should be to facilitate providing all of them with the tools they need to adapt to this different and challenging overseas environment. We can do this through a sound and carefully administered policy that combines training, peer pressure, and a review of each individual Sailor's record.

2. Background. It is unlawful under reference (a) to deny normal liberty except in select circumstances such as the specific result of punishment imposed under Article 15 of the UCMJ, authorized pretrial restraint, when such action is deemed essential for the protection of foreign country relations, or as a result of an international legal hold restriction. Reference (b) states that senior officers shall impress upon officers and enlisted personnel the duty to avoid all cause of offense to authorities and host nationals in a foreign country. When on liberty in a foreign country, Armed Forces personnel are to act at all times with moderation and courtesy. References (c), (d) and (e) establish circumstances under which curtailment of liberty is appropriate. Consistent with this guidance, Navy personnel in Japan in pay grades E1 through E4 are granted liberty after working hours and on weekends and holidays until 2400. This midnight liberty expiration is in effect regardless of the living arrangements or marital status of the Sailor. Commanders, Commanding Officers, and Officer's In Charge may grant exceptions to select E1's through E4's who have demonstrated personal maturity, responsibility, and accountability. Individual commands are responsible to Commander, Naval Forces Japan for program administration and enforcement.

3. Applicability. This instruction applies to all shore-based commands and organizations with personnel in pay grades E-1 through E-4 and below on permanent or temporary duty in the COMNAVFORJAPAN AOR with the exception of Navy Support Facility Diego Garcia. This is an official and lawful directive and violations by military personnel may be punished under the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

4. Action. A midnight liberty expiration is in effect for personnel in pay grades E1 through E4 within the Commander, Naval Forces Japan AOR. Extended liberty for select individuals who meet certain minimum qualification criteria is at the discretion of their Commander, Commanding Officer, or Officer In Charge. Commands shall use the following minimum criteria and good judgment to identify those personnel in pay grades E1 through E4 who have demonstrated the necessary attributes to be granted extended liberty:

- a. Sailor has been on board for three months.
- b. Attend the applicable installation Area Orientation/Intercultural Relations (AOB/ICR) brief.
- c. Attended Prevent/AWARE or another sanctioned Navy alcohol training program.
- d. Demonstrates sustained superior work performance.
- e. Maintains proper grooming, uniform and civilian clothing standards.
- f. Demonstrates mature behavior that portrays a positive image of the Navy and exemplifies the Navy's Core Values.
- g. Understands and adheres to the Right Spirit Program.
- h. Not a Liberty Risk candidate within the past 90 days.
- i. No disciplinary action (DRB, XOI, or CO's Mast) within the past six months.
- j. No Blue Liberty Card revocation in the past six months.
- k. Installations may require additional training such as completion of "Skills for Life" CD or completion of structured courses such as "How to Behave in Japan" which focus on responsible behavior while on liberty.
- l. Commanding Officers/CMCs need to periodically revisit the elements of this program with their junior personnel. Identify and promulgate off-limits areas and highlight environmental changes that need to be brought to the attention of our Sailors. Commanders often hear about trends in off-base drug use/trafficking or increases in certain types of crime; this is information that should be shared with our people.

Note: Sailors that had Blue Liberty Cards at a previous FDNF Command may be considered for Blue Card Status at their new Command prior to satisfying the three-month on board requirement if all other requirements are met.

5. Administration. Each Commander, Commanding Officer, or Officer In Charge will develop and administer their own program, using the following minimum criteria:

- a. Review and qualification as a Blue Card holder, using the criteria provided in paragraph 4 above, will be conducted via a formal process,

specified in writing by Command Instruction or Note. The intent of this review is to provide the chain of command with a sense of each Sailor's suitability and adaptability prior to granting extended liberty privileges.

b. Signature authority for Blue Cards will reside at the CMC or CSO/XO level.

c. Blue Liberty Card. Issued to personnel in pay grades E1 through E4 who have met the minimum requirements contained in paragraph 4 and have been designated by their Commander, Commanding Officer, or Officer In Charge for extended off-base liberty.

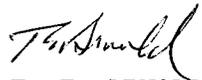
d. White Liberty Card. Issued to personnel in pay grades E1 through E4 who do not meet or have failed to maintain the minimum requirements contained in paragraph 4 and have not been designated by their Commander, Commanding Officer, or Officer's In Charge for extended off-base liberty. Personnel holding White Liberty Cards will adhere to the following:

(1) Personnel maintaining residences off base are required to be in their residences no later than 2400.

(2) Personnel maintaining residences on base are required to be on base no later than 2400.

Note: Additional restrictions on the use of alcohol may be imposed as necessary for White Liberty cardholders.

6. Enforcement. Commanders, Commanding Officers, and Officer's In Charge are responsible for monitoring, and if required, re-evaluating their Liberty Card Program. In the event a Blue Liberty Card Holder is involved in a reportable (requires a Unit SITREP) conduct violation during extended liberty, and especially when alcohol, violence or host national involvement is a factor, the CO/OIC will determine the root cause, take appropriate action necessary to remediate the individual, or implement possible program changes to preclude further incidents from occurring. Additionally, the CO/OIC will report, via email or telephone to CNFJ or CNFJ Chief of Staff, the results of the review and action (if any) taken. The command will suspend their Blue Card Program pending completion of this program review. In the case of larger commands (over 100), Commanding Officers may execute suspensions at the Departmental level (e.g.; if two sailors in Port Ops Department have incidents, only the program in that department will be suspended vice the entire command).


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